



Bustle of government activity on the economy

Red tape cut in battle to create jobs

The Government launched an important initiative yesterday to create more jobs by freeing businesses from red tape.

The second White Paper produced by Lord Young of Graffham, Secretary of State for Employment, is seen as his main weapon in slaying what Mrs Margaret Thatcher described last week as "the dragon of unemployment".

It emphasizes the Government's objective of cutting the dole queues by encouraging more small businesses to be started up and more self-employed and part-time workers.

Among the 80 proposals are a fairer VAT payment system, fewer planning regulations and less employment protection for workers in small firms. It also states that Civil Servants may be faceless but should at least give their names when dealing with the public, and that tax and VAT men should visit companies together rather than separately.

Lord Young said that many of his proposals could be brought in without legislation but a deregulation Bill may be needed for some of the measures.

By Sheila Gama, Political Staff

Building Businesses - Not Barriers comes after last year's White Paper Lifting the Burden, which was not seen by many businessmen or Conservative MPs as sufficiently ambitious or effective. It also goes some way to meet the criticisms of the Centre for Policy Studies, a right-wing think tank set up by Mrs Thatcher and Sir Keith Joseph, which last month accused the Government of merely tinkering with the problems facing small firms.

Lord Young said the new White Paper was designed to protect workers, consumers and the public while cutting the unnecessary regulations which inhibited business growth and job creation. But trade unionists will not welcome his plans to cut workers' rights.

He is an admirer of the regulation-free atmosphere in the United States where 22 million new jobs had been created. He said yesterday that his aim was the same lack of bureaucracy and the latest

conservative MPs gave a qualified welcome to the package when Mr Kenneth Clarke, Paymaster General and Minister for Employment, repeated Lord Young's statement in the Commons. Some were worried that hotels could be turned into old people's homes without the need for planning permission.

Mr John Prescott, Labour's chief Opposition spokesman on employment, claimed that the White Paper was an attack on the employment rights of workers. It used the same words and contained the same proposals as the 1985 White Paper Lifting the Burden.

White Paper was the second chapter in his campaign. He expected there would be a third phase before the next general election.

"Better communication is central to our aim of encouraging enterprise. So we aim for better information, easier access to advice and guidance, and a more helpful and positive approach by officials."

Announcing the White Paper in the Lords, he said that it reflected "our firm belief that only by removing barriers to business will enterprise flourish and the essential creation of wealth and jobs follow".

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Rise cut at top and for nurses

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Cabinet yesterday halved the independently proposed pay rises for almost 2,000 judges, senior members of the armed forces and senior Civil Servants in a move welcomed by its own backbenchers to avoid a repetition of last year's damaging controversy over top people's pay.

At the same time it effectively cut back by about a quarter on the recommendations proposed for nurses and midwives, doctors and dentists and the armed forces, provoking an angry response from Opposition MPs and medical groups.

As a result of the Prime Minister's announcement of the Government's response to the reports of the independent pay review bodies, nurses are to get an average 5.9 per cent increase in 1986-87, doctors and dentists 5.7 per cent, the armed forces 5.6 per cent and top Civil Servants and judges 3 per cent.

That compares with the 7.8 per cent recommended for nurses, 7.6 per cent for doctors and dentists, 7.5 per cent for the armed forces and 6.5 per cent for top salaries.

The reduction arises because although the Prime Minister said that the recommendations for nurses, doctors and the armed forces were to be met in full, they are to take effect from July 1 rather than April 1 as the independent bodies proposed.

In the case of top salaries the recommendations have been scaled down to an average 4 per cent, but also to take effect from July 1 and thus to keep the effective increase in line with inflation at 3 per cent. All the groups are effectively being subjected to a three-month pay freeze.

The Cabinet's decision on top salaries was applauded by Conservative MPs last night. Last year its award meant pay increases of up to 46 per cent for the most senior Civil Servants. It provoked an outcry from Conservative MPs, 100 of whom rebelled against the increases in a late-night Commons vote.

This year senior ministers had issued a warning that there must be no repeat, and last night one Conservative MP said the Government's response to the Top Salaries Review Body report "has the chief whip written all over it."

As a result Sir Robert Armstrong, Secretary to the Cabinet and Head of the Home Civil Service, will receive a £2,400 increase on his £75,000 salary from July 1, rather than a £4,000 increase from April 1 as recommended by the body.

The total cost to the Government of all the awards will be £578 million but it would have been had it accepted all the recommendations in full.

The Prime Minister said

Continued on page 2, col 7



The Prince of Wales, as Grand Master of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, at Westminster Abbey yesterday for a service (Photograph: John Manning)

Labour expels two Militant leaders in first-stage purge

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Labour's national executive yesterday expelled two of Liverpool's Militant leaders in the first stage of a concerted, if limited, purge designed to reassure the voters that Mr Neil Kinnock has complete control of his party.

After a 16-hour sitting on Wednesday, the executives voted early yesterday morning 13-7 to expel Mr Tony Mulhearn, President of the Liverpool district Labour party on charges of Militant membership and breach of party rules.

The executive then broke for eight hours, resumed at 9.30 am and after a further seven-hour session voted 12-9 to expel Mr Ian Lowe, a union shop steward and Militant trade union co-ordinator, for Militant membership.

The executive rejected, by 14 votes to 7, a second charge of abuse of rules, and party sources immediately used that vote as proof that the evidence was being carefully assessed in accordance with the rules of natural justice and arguing that there was no question of predetermined verdicts.

The executive later withdrew charges of Militant membership against Mr Harry Smith, a Liverpool councillor. That motion was proposed by Mr Kinnock and carried unanimously, but when Mr Smith came out of Party headquarters after a two-hour hearing he was greeted with chants of "Militant" and "victory" by the small contingent of Militant supporters.

Militant resists, page 16

Botham on 4 charges

Ian Botham will have to answer four charges when he meets the Test and County Cricket Board Disciplinary Committee on May 29.

The England all-rounder will be accused of bringing the game into disrepute by using cannabis, by admitting to using cannabis, by denying that in the past he had used the drug and by making public

John Woodcock, page 32

He denied that he had distanced himself from any of his colleagues. "I am a lot of things, but I am not a rat," he said.

He had not given an undertaking to distance himself from Militant; he would carry on reading the newspaper and would carry on speaking from Militant platforms.

Mr Lowe said that he was not surprised at his expulsion on the "kangaroo court" judgment because the disgraceful decision had been reached beforehand on the most "flimsy" evidence.

He said the alleged breach of rules was "even more ridiculous" than the first set of charges.

Mr Lowe added that his local party would ignore the verdict and in common with other expelled Liverpool militants, he said he was confident that he would retain his party card.

Meanwhile, Mr Kinnock missed Prime Minister's question time in the Commons and last night's presentation of the British Press Awards, in an attempt to reach verdicts on three other alleged Liverpool militants.

But Mr Derek Hatton, deputy leader of the city council, pleaded an urgent engagement back on Merseyside and his case, and the handful of other outstanding cases, are expected to be set down for hearing sometime next month.

Militant resists, page 16

Cost of bank lending falls

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

The cost of bank lending started to fall yesterday, with National Westminster Bank cutting its base lending rate half a point to 10 per cent.

The other three big high street banks are expected to follow with a similar cut today. However, building societies said that there would be no drop in mortgage rates at this stage.

The drop came as pressure for a cut built up in the money markets. The pound had been strengthening against most European currencies while sterling interest rates weakened throughout the day.

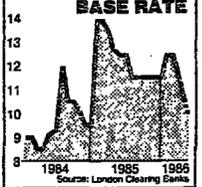
Against the dollar, however, sterling dropped more than two cents to close at \$1.4962 in London.

The news came as the Government announced figures showing a disappointing level of investment in manufacturing industry during the first quarter of this year. The Department of Trade and Industry released figures showing capital spending up by 4 per cent compared with the final quarter of 1985 - but nearly 2 per cent below the level of investment at the start of last year.

In manufacturing industry there was an increase in capital investment, including leased assets, of £1.8 billion during the quarter, a rise of 5.5 per cent.

The latest set of cyclical indicators, which are meant to forecast movement in the business cycle, was released by the Treasury yesterday. The longer leading indicator for April was 108.7, compared with 106.2 in March with several elements showing unusual volatility.

Keneth Fleet, page 17



Source: London Clearing Bank

Biffen attack nearly cost job

By Richard Evans, Lobby Reporter

Mr John Biffen came close to being summarily dismissed from the Cabinet after his controversial television interview in which he implicitly criticized Mrs Thatcher's style of leadership and suggested the Conservative Party should enter the next general election with a "balanced ticket".

It was only after discussions with Lord Whitelaw, Leader of the House of Lords and Deputy Prime Minister, and Mr John Wakeham, Chief Whip, that the Prime Minister decided against such action.

Mrs Thatcher was "absolutely furious" and "terribly upset" by Mr Biffen's remarks in an interview on London Weekend Television's *Weekend World* two weeks ago, senior party sources confirmed.

The Prime Minister was particularly infuriated that such a senior and influential Cabinet minister as the Leader of the House of Commons should be so publicly disloyal.

During the interview, Mr Biffen said the Conservative Party should enter the next election with a "balanced ticket" to offset what he acknowledged were Mrs Thatcher's liabilities.

He added that, without a team approach, it would be much easier for political opponents to represent the Prime Minister as uncaring or "trigger happy", and to take advantage of her supposed failings.

The party sources said that when she spoke to Lord Whitelaw and Mr Wakeham, two of her closest aides, Mr Thatcher was all for immediate dismissal. While neither said she must not, both are understood to have warned of the consequences.

With the Conservative Party plummeting in the polls, the dismissal of Mr Biffen, a popular minister among Conservative backbenchers, could have prompted enormous dissent in party ranks.

But with Downing Street sources doing little to dampen speculation of a wide ranging Cabinet reshuffle in the autumn, there will be growing doubts on Mr Biffen's future.

Trade war warning

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

The House of Representatives yesterday passed a Democrat-sponsored Bill designed to toughen US trade laws despite strong opposition and a warning from President Reagan that it was protectionist and could lead to a world trade war.

The Bill, which passed on a vote of 295 to 115, was sent to the Republican-controlled Senate, where President Reagan is expected to have a better chance of winning legislation more to his liking.

Under provisions of the Bill, Japan, West Germany and Taiwan would be forced to cut exports immediately or buy more goods. Mr Reagan described it as "anti-trade" and protectionist legislation which would have "our nation violate basic tenets of free and fair international trade."

rised year 1986

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Tomorrow

Weekend sport



Cricket: England v India at the Oval. Football: England's World Cup warm-up against Canada.

JUMBO

The big crossword

Portfolio Gold

Two readers shared yesterday's Times Portfolio Gold competition prize of £8,000 - details, page 3.

Today there is the regular daily prize of £4,000 to be won, and tomorrow the total prize money will be £12,000 - the daily £4,000 plus the weekly prize of £8,000.

Portfolio list, page 25; rules and how to play, information service, page 16.

IRA kill three

Two Ulster policemen and a British Army major were killed in an IRA landmine attack on a foot patrol near Crossmaglen in the Co Armagh "bandit country".

Inquiry denied

Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, rejected a request for an inquiry into complaints of police brutality outside the News International printing plant at Wapping, east London. Parliament, page 4.

Sikh terror

Eleven people died when Sikh terrorists opened fire in a Punjabi bazaar. Page 9.

Aid cutback

Africa will be particularly hit by huge cuts in US aid to the Third World, ending an era of overseas assistance. Page 9.

Table with 3 columns: Home News, Features, 19-12. Includes items like Overseas, Apps, Arts, Business, Births, deaths, marriages, Chess, Church, Court, Crosswords, Diary.

Thatcher firm on tax cuts goal

By Our Political Reporter

The Prime Minister yesterday foreshadowed a tough cabinet battle on public spending when she made clear that her ambition was still to cut the standard rate of tax.

In a direct response to the calls of ministers like Mr Kenneth Baker, Mr Douglas Hurd, Mr Peter Walker and Mr John Biffen for more to be spent on public services, Mrs Thatcher said in the Commons that the way to increase take-home pay for the low paid, without adding to industrial costs, was to reduce the standard rate of income tax.

She was lining up yet again with Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, Mr Norman Tebbit, the Conservative Party chairman, and Mr Nicholas Ridley, the new Secretary of State for the Environment, who have been emphasizing the need for restraint on public spending despite growing demands from the party for the Government to present a more caring image.

The sharpness of the Prime Minister's retort to Mr Tim Yeo, Conservative MP for South Suffolk, who suggested to her in the Commons that the need for improved public services might be greater than the need to cut taxes, surprised

Conservative MPs, who took it as being addressed to some of her colleagues sitting alongside her on the government front bench.

It was seen as significant that she had chosen to restate her aim so explicitly the day after her Cabinet reshuffle was portrayed in terms that suggested Mr Baker would be out to achieve a big increase in educational spending.

She told Mr Yeo that by "having strict priorities within total constraints" the Government had been able to improve the resources devoted to the health service and pensions. But it had to be done within overall constraints.

Mrs Thatcher pressed home her message in a speech last night to the CBI in London. She bluntly told her audience: "We aim to go on reducing income tax." She added: "It is only too easy for governments to spend taxpayers' money so generously that taxpayers are left with too little to be generous to their own families."

She made a strong plea for restraint in industrial wage settlements. In Germany and Japan prices were not rising at all and costs in Britain were rising far faster than theirs.

Payment for Cyprus spy trial men

By Our Lobby Reporter

The Ministry of Defence is to make ex gratia payments expected to run into thousands of pounds to seven of the eight RAF Servicemen cleared in last year's Cyprus spy trial.

Mr John Stanley, Minister for the Armed Forces, made the announcement in the Commons last night following the publication of an inquiry by Mr David Calcutt, QC, into the interrogation techniques used by Armed Services police against the eight.

Mr Calcutt concluded that

the custody of the Servicemen was, for part of the time, unlawful and even after they had been lawfully arrested "their continued custody was at least improper."

The Servicemen were interrogated mostly during periods of unlawful and improper custody.

Mr Calcutt said that as the number of days spent in custody increased so the pressure which was exerted on each of the Servicemen built

Continued on page 2, col 5



Mr Calcutt: Pressure put on arrested Servicemen.

Water sell-off proposals 'inadequate'

Government plans for privatizing the 10 water authorities in England and Wales were criticized as rushed and poorly thought out yesterday by Mr Len Hill, chairman of the Water Authorities Association.

The authorities were not being given enough time to prepare for the planned stock market flotation, he said; and also claimed that the proposed formula for controlling water charges after privatization was inadequate.

Plans to split off the land drainage activities of the authorities into a separate public body would damage the industry, Mr Hill added.

The Government is hoping to raise up to £5 billion from privatizing the authorities. Details, page 17

Flights of alcoholic fancy in Ukraine

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

The Kremlin has stepped in to try to dispel the most prevalent of the many rumours sweeping the Ukraine in the wake of the Chernobyl disaster - that the intake of large quantities of strong liquor is the most effective remedy against high doses of radiation.

Faith in the remedial qualities of a potent folk-mixture of vodka and strong red wine has gained firmest hold among the 92,000 evacuees from the immediate disaster area, emergency workers who faced the highest radiation risks and worried residents of Kiev where demand for vodka is reported to have increased substantially since the April 26 explosion.

"All this gossip about liquor is the purest fantasy," Mr

Oleg Shchepin, the First Deputy Health Minister, told the official weekly *Liternaya Gazeta* in the first public acknowledgement of the extent to which the rumour has taken hold. The so-called medical qualities of liquor have no scientific basis.

Already, the domestic service of Tass has reported that citizens in the Kiev region have been sent to hospital as a result of taking what it described as "home remedies" against radiation, but this information was not translated for English-language subscribers.

In addition to the vodka and red wine combination (in which, according to Muscovites with relatives in Kiev, the wine is added to a full glass of vodka in drops), other quick remedies adopted by panic-stricken citizens were known to have included the adminis-

tering of poisonous liquid iodine to children by their parents.

The rush on vodka in Kiev has come as an extra embarrassment to the authorities as it runs counter to the Kremlin's strict anti-alcohol campaign launched last year. Mr Shchepin specifically denied rumours that even bakers in the Ukrainian capital had started to sell alcohol to minimize queues. "I was in Kiev several days ago and I went to a shop. There was nothing of the kind there," he said.

For days before the interview, Moscow's formidable bush telegraph had been buzzing with accounts of how many drivers who transported evacuees from the contaminated area were swigging from vodka bottles inside the areas of highest radiation risk. Another persistent rumour relates

that several workers on duty in the stricken station were drunk when the accident occurred.

The conviction in the efficacy of vodka as an antidote to radiation is now strongly-rooted at all levels of Soviet society and reinforced by a drinking song which extols the virtues of one of the most popular brands, Stolichnaya, in resisting Strontium-90.

"It is not a joke, it is something that people seriously believe," one office worker explained yesterday.

Western observers described the official Soviet moves to scotch the rumours as an indication of serious concern about the extent to which they have taken hold.

Vodka has long been the base for many other folk-cures in which ordinary Russians place an increasing reliance.

Sikhs accused of plot to murder Gandhi held after discharge

By Craig Seton

Three Sikhs accused of an assassination plot against Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian prime minister, were rearrested immediately after being discharged by a court yesterday because of the collapse of the prosecution case over the refusal of an undercover policeman to give evidence if he was identified.

A fourth Sikh was discharged. The three rearrested men will appear before Leicester magistrates again today, while the Director of Public Prosecutions seeks a voluntary Bill of Indictment in the High Court in Nottingham in an attempt to take the case to a Crown Court without further committal proceedings.

A defence lawyer said that the prosecution's decision to try to avoid further committal proceedings was "a sad day for British justice". He said there appeared to have been pressure from the highest level of government officers involved in the case.

The three Sikhs, all from Leicester, were led from the dock after their discharge, and rearrested within minutes, in a witness waiting room adjoining Leicester Crown Court.

Sikhs who had been in the public gallery shouted abuse at police officers on guard outside the court room, and accused the British Government of a campaign against Sikhs on behalf of the Indian government.

Mr William Probert, the stipendiary magistrate, discharged the four men after refusing a prosecution application for another adjournment while the Bill of Indictment was sought.

Three of the men had been in custody since October last year when they were arrested by police officers three days before Mr Gandhi arrived in Britain on a State visit.

Committal proceedings started on Monday when one of two undercover policemen who had posed as IRA gunmen willing to kill Mr Gandhi, refused to give evidence if he was identified because, it was said, it could endanger his life.

The Sikhs were alleged to have hatched a £60,000 plot to murder Mr Gandhi and tried to carry out the killing. But they were, in fact, undercover po-

Government legal officers are to seek High Court leave as a matter of urgency to press a voluntary Bill of Indictment so that the case against the three Sikhs can go directly to the Crown Court. (Frances Gibb writes).

Such a Bill is a way of getting a case to trial without going through committal proceedings, and is being sought by way of an appeal against the ruling of the magistrate that the chief prosecution witnesses must be identified.

The usual practice is for the names of the witnesses to be written down and passed around the court, but not given to the public. In this case, the prosecution is asking for the names to be withheld from the defendants, a request sometimes granted in official secrets prosecutions and sensitive military cases.

The Bill of Indictment is used where there has been a procedural defect in committal proceedings, or where those proceedings are for some other reason.

licemen known only as "Tom B" and "Ian S".

A defence lawyer accused the policemen of being "agent provocateurs and entrappers", who sought to implicate the men in a plot which otherwise would not have existed.

The rearrested men were Mr Jarnail Singh Ranuana, aged 45, a company director, Mr Sukvirinder Singh Gill, aged 30, a dyer, and Mr Parmata Singh Marwaha, aged 43, a factory owner. They were all originally charged with conspiracy to murder Mr Gandhi, the charge on which they were arrested yesterday, and of soliciting detective constables Tom B and Ian S to murder Mr Gandhi.

Mr Ranuana was also charged with possessing a revolver without a firearms certificate and supplying drugs, alleged to have been part of the murder plot.

Mr Harjinder Singh Rai, aged 30, a director, who was released after the hearing, was originally charged with conspiracy only.

The prosecution case ran into difficulties almost immediately when Detective Constable "B" was sworn in but

said he did not wish to give evidence if his identity was disclosed because he was involved in other undercover operations and could be in danger.

But the magistrate ruled that the policeman could give evidence as Detective Constable "B" as long as his name and the force in which he served were disclosed to the defence.

On Tuesday, Mr Peter Crane, of the Director of Public Prosecutions, was granted an adjournment while he consulted Sir Michael Havers, QC. Yesterday he said the officer was willing to give his name provided his force was not disclosed.

Mr Crane said the evidence of the two men consisted almost entirely of tape recordings of meetings which were alleged to have taken place with the accused.

He said: "This is a very novel and difficult position. This is not an ordinary case of a recalcitrant witness who is simply being awkward. You should have well in mind what his motives are. They are not ones of not wishing to give evidence to assist the court. There is no defiance in that sense. For both officers it is because of their anxiety."

Mr James Wood, counsel for Mr Marwaha, said: "This case has serious political overtones and serious overtones not only in relation to the charges but also the conduct of the police operations, because the defence says it went far beyond the bounds of propriety and what has hitherto been acceptable police conduct."

He said Detective Constable "B" should go back into the witness box to be cross examined over the allegations. Without his identity being disclosed, or that of his force, the defence was not able to carry out its own investigations and establish the officer's credibility and truthfulness.

He said there appeared to have been pressure from the "highest level" of government officers.

Mr Probert, in declining the adjournment application, discharged the men under the Magistrates Court Act and ordered that costs be paid from central funds.



Mr Denis Thatcher, Sports Supporter of the Year 1985, with the champagne prize which he offered yesterday to the Sports Aid Trust to auction (Photograph: Chris Harris).

Poorest face nutrition risk

By Our Science Correspondent

Many people, including pregnant women, children and old people, do not have enough money to eat properly and may suffer serious health problems as a result, dietary experts said yesterday.

The British Dietetic Association said in a report that it had become "increasingly worried" about the eating patterns of people on low incomes.

Cash allocated for children of families on state supplementary benefit was "grossly inadequate", and proposed re-

ductions in provision for pregnant women may adversely affect both mother and baby, the report said.

"We are extremely concerned that the proposed withdrawal of free milk to women currently receiving family income will further compromise the nutrition of this vulnerable group," the dieticians said.

The association urged the Government to look in detail at the provision of food and therapeutic diets for people on supplementary diet, or family income supplement.

Those included the elderly,

Traders look to computer network

By Bill Johnstone, Technology Correspondent

Bare food shelves brought about by misordering could be a thing of the past, and British traders could save millions of pounds a year if new high street communication networks prove successful.

Yesterday the battle for that business heated up with IBM, the American computer group, launching its system to compete with a British network from ICL.

The networks allow traders to exchange information by computer, including sending invoices and placing orders. They are sophisticated electronic mail services which allow the users instant communication.

Tradenet, the British version unveiled in 1985, was designed initially to connect all the British shops which are members of the Article Number Association - those outlets which use bar coding on the items they sell. From autumn this year a group of Britain's main shippers and exporters will also use this network.

A spokesman for ICL said: "The EEC Commission estimates that in Europe alone the total cost of all unnecessary delays to intra-Community trade exceeds £7,000 million each year. Once in operation, the new service is expected to reduce these costs."

Pill users reassured on liver cancer link

By Thomson Prentice Science Correspondent

Family planning experts moved quickly yesterday to reassure women about the hazards of the contraceptive pill and its links with cancer, after new studies showed an increased risk to long-term users.

The research has indicated that women who have been taking the pill for eight or more years are at an increased risk of developing cancer of the liver, which causes about one death a month in Britain.

Details of the research are published today in the *British Medical Journal* by specialists at a unit of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, and at King's College Hospital, London.

The Family Planning Association, aware of the publications, issued statements advising doctors not to change present practice in prescribing the pill, but recommending that women who felt anxious should seek their doctors' advice before discontinuing the pill.

The cancer fund and FPA were attempting to prevent an over-reaction among women similar to that which occurred two years ago when scientists linked the pill with an increased danger of breast cancer. Many women stopped taking the contraceptive, leading to a substantial rise in the numbers of unwanted pregnancies and abortions.

Dr David Forman, who led the fund's research, said: "We have confirmed that there is an increased risk of liver cancer associated with eight or more years of pill usage."

Over the last 10 years in England and Wales, an average of 19 women a year aged between 20 and 49 died from hepatocellular carcinoma, the form of liver cancer specifically associated with the pill. The cancer fund estimates that between six and 12 of these cases every year could have been caused by long-term pill usage.

Dr Forman said: "These were tragic deaths for the women concerned and their families. But even if we accept that 12 deaths from this cause are attributable to pill usage every year, that would represent only 0.3 per cent of all cancer deaths of women in this age group."

Portfolio Gold

Every morning Mr Alfred Street of Hackney, east London, reads his horoscope "just in case the stars say I will be lucky".

Yesterday his birth sign, Aries, predicted accurately that there would be "some money for today".

"I played my usual game of *Portfolio Gold* and didn't give the horoscope chart a second thought until *The Times* rang me to say I had won a share," Mr Street said.

Mr Street, aged 68, won £4,000 in yesterday's competition, which had a total prize of £8,000, double the usual daily prize because the competition was not held on Wednesday owing to technical problems concerning the prizes list.

He and his wife May have decided now to enjoy a summer holiday somewhere in England.

Mrs Bernice Burman of Salford, Manchester, also won £4,000 in yesterday's competition.

"I just didn't believe it as I have only been playing *Portfolio Gold* for a few weeks. So I asked my husband to check the numbers," Mrs Burman said.

If you experience any difficulty obtaining a *Portfolio Gold* card, please send an see to:

Portfolio Gold, The Times, PO Box 40, Blackburn, BB1 6AJ.



Mrs Bernice Burman, beginner's luck.

£2m raised so far by Sport Aid campaign

The public response to the Sport Aid famine relief campaign has been "incredible", with more than £2 million raised so far, the organizers said yesterday.

They announced that Moscow was to join the "Race Against Time" on Sunday, the climax of a week of fundraising. People will be running in 238 cities in 74 countries.

Print clue to second bomb plot

The alleged IRA bomber who left fingerprints when he blew up Brighton's Grand Hotel also left a print when he concealed another hotel bombing months later, a court was told yesterday.

The jury at the Central Criminal Court has already been told that Patrick Magee, aged 34, from Belfast, left two prints on the registration card at the Grand Hotel when he booked in as "Roy Walsh" in September 1984.

The prosecution alleges that he hid a device in room 629 which killed five people during the Conservative Party conference a month later.

Yesterday, Mr David Tadd, a Scotland Yard fingerprint expert, said that he found Magee's left thumb print on another registration card, this time at the Rubens Hotel, near Buckingham Palace.

In June last year a bomb was defused at the hotel.

Mr Roy Amlot, for the prosecution, alleges that the Rubens' bomb was one of 16 to be planted in London and seaside resorts in a summer bombing campaign last year.

Mr Magee is accused of planting the time-delayed device at Brighton, causing the explosion, and of murdering five people.

With four others, Mr Magee is accused of conspiring to cause explosions in the United Kingdom last year.

The other defendants are Gerard McDonnell, aged 34, Peter Sherry, aged 30, Martina Anderson, aged 23, and Ella O'Dwyer, aged 26.

All five have pleaded not guilty.

The trial continues.

Pravda makes its debut in English

By Alan Hamilton

Britain has yet another new daily newspaper, eagerly snatched up when it went on sale in London for the first time yesterday. It contains neither big-name columnists, nor page 3 girls, nor colour, except for rolling stripes of grey. But its lead story is an exact reprint of last Sunday's *Pravda*, but contains some of the more interesting pieces to have appeared in the Moscow original in the past few days, including most of its Chernobyl coverage.

Much of the reporting on the nuclear accident is more concerned with the western media's reaction than with the incident itself. "No real objective analysis can compare the west's hysteria and slanders on the pages of the western press, witnessed during the past few weeks," one report said.

Western readers may be surprised at the amount of criticism of Soviet life contained in its lengthy and unbroken columns.

Nevertheless the newspaper, founded as its masthead proclaims, by V I Lenin on May 5 1917, cannot entirely escape its archetype. At the bottom of its front page is the seemingly obligatory story about tractors - 30 young girls in the town of Ust-Kamenogorsk were each presented with a tractor inscribed with their name.

The next issue promises a despatch about the current state of Britain from the newspaper's London correspondent, and an important article criticizing Soviet television.

Pravda were aware of his project, and had cooperated by sending him the relevant copies, but had not sought to influence him in any way. "I have an arm's-length relationship with them, but they have raised no objections."

The first issue is not an exact reprint of last Sunday's *Pravda*, but contains some of the more interesting pieces to have appeared in the Moscow original in the past few days, including most of its Chernobyl coverage.

Much of the reporting on the nuclear accident is more concerned with the western media's reaction than with the incident itself. "No real objective analysis can compare the west's hysteria and slanders on the pages of the western press, witnessed during the past few weeks," one report said.

Western readers may be surprised at the amount of criticism of Soviet life contained in its lengthy and unbroken columns.

Nevertheless the newspaper, founded as its masthead proclaims, by V I Lenin on May 5 1917, cannot entirely escape its archetype. At the bottom of its front page is the seemingly obligatory story about tractors - 30 young girls in the town of Ust-Kamenogorsk were each presented with a tractor inscribed with their name.

The next issue promises a despatch about the current state of Britain from the newspaper's London correspondent, and an important article criticizing Soviet television.

Forestry's 'untapped' resources

By John Young Agricultural Correspondent

The prospect that forestry might become an important new British industry, revitalizing rural areas, providing jobs and helping to reduce agricultural surpluses, was presented to the annual meeting in London yesterday of Timber Growers United Kingdom, the national body representing private woodland owners.

Mr Richard Livesey, MP for Brecon and Radnor and Liberal Party spokesman on agriculture, said the time was ripe for an initiative.

The fact that the National Farmers' Union had said that it would like to see nearly two million acres taken out of food production pointed to the need for a long-term strategy for an alternative enterprise, he said.

It seemed extraordinary that, when Britain imported about 90 per cent of its timber needs, it had not done more to exploit its own resources, he said.

With the pressure on farming to look for alternative sources of income, the growth of wood as a renewable source of energy was a most attractive option.

Murder trial

David Wynne Roberts, aged 31, of no fixed address, was committed for trial to Carlisle Crown Court by magistrates at Windermere yesterday, charged with the murder of Mrs Brown Nixon, aged 60, a hotelier at Ambleside.

MP's son dies in hospital after crash

The son of Mr Denis Howell, Labour MP for Birmingham-Stall Heath, died in hospital yesterday after a car crash in which he sustained severe multiple injuries.

David Howell, aged 21, a final-year social science student at Bristol Polytechnic, died in the intensive care unit of Fritchey Hospital near Bristol. His parents were at the bedside.

He was taken there on Tuesday night after being catapulted from the luggage compartment of the estate car in which he was travelling with five student friends, when it smashed into railings on a bridge across the M32 at Siske Lane, Bristol.

TV acting award is shared

David Suchet, star of the television series *Fred*, and Anna Massey, who played the lead in *Hotel de Lac*, both broadcast by BBC-2, shared the Royal Television Society's performance award for 1985-86 last night.

The judges said that Mr Suchet had given a range of "brilliant performances", including *A Song for Europe* on Channel 4, *Blind on the Landscape* and *Fred* for BBC-2.

Miss Massey had given "superb performances" in *Hotel de Lac* and *Sacred Hearts* on Channel 4.

Two awards - for original programme and design - went to Channel 4's *Max Headroom*, which was about a computer-generated television presenter.

The society's highest award, the Gold Medal, went to Anglia's *Survival*. The judges, presenting the awards at the Grosvenor House Hotel, central London, said the series involved "a programme production team whose work over the past 25 years has earned it the admiration of professionals and viewing audiences alike, in both the UK and rest of the world".

Mr Edward Barnes, a children's programme producer, took the Silver Medal, awarded for outstanding creative achievement behind the camera. Mr Barnes, who has worked in television for 34 years, created *John Craven's Newsworld*, the news programme for children, produced *Blue Peter* and pioneered *Multi-Coloured Swap Shop*.

The writer's award had joint winners: Alan Bennett for the

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Half Year Results 1986

- *Profits up by nearly 50%
- *EPS up by 11%
- *Interim dividend up by 15%

	Half Year		Year
	1986	1985	1985
	£000	£000	£000
Sales	77,739	57,589	128,292
Profit before interest	7,309	4,806	12,602
Interest	(1,022)	(542)	(1,530)
Profit before tax	6,287	4,264	11,072

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Russian culprits over chemical weapons

DEFENCE

Britain since that would lead to a major escalation of the arms race and be even less acceptable to the British people than the use of F111 bombers for the attack on Tripoli (Labour cheer)...

Mrs Thatcher's Opposition polls said yesterday (Wednesday) that the centre right parties would lose in Holland 1 notice the result was somewhat different. The United Kingdom has received no request from the United States with regard to developing chemical weapons of course if we were asked to receive them we would have to consider in all the circumstances of the time...

Dr David Owen, Leader of the Social Democrats. The case for Britain retaining its nuclear capacity and the case for NATO having nuclear weapons means we can denounce the folly of the Soviet Union stockpiling chemical weapons...

SMALL FIRMS

Almost 80 new proposals for cutting red tape presently emanating from small business are included in the Government White Paper Building Business - Not Barriers...

The Government will be setting up a major review on VAT and small businesses, considering such issues as accounting for VAT on a cash basis rather than using invoices and an instalment system for VAT payments...

European Commission to scrutinise all future proposals that might affect business so that the costs of compliance can be minimized.

The idea that the public mind could be diverted from what was happening as a result of those police powers to ease a few more jobs, since when the White Paper was published...

many other matters of far greater importance. While any easing of the burden was to be welcomed, small businesses did not have access to the sort of professional experience available to large undertakings.

Responding to the repetition of the statement in the Commons later by Mr Kenneth Clarke, Paymaster General and chief Commons spokesman...



Geoffrey Smith

Whenever Mrs Thatcher reshuffles her Cabinet, the changes are scrutinized to see how the balance of power has been shifted between "wets" and "dries"...

Spy trial Servicemen were not tortured

SECRETS ACT

Following the independent inquiry into the case in which security police carried out investigations of eight servicemen from 9 Signal Regiment in Cyprus who had been charged under the Official Secrets Act...

intrigue, bullying and improper treatment which if they saw it on a weekend horror film they would say it was good fiction. The Opposition strongly welcomed the decision to make ex gratia payments to them...

He was advised that they could make representations to the board and use the grievance procedure before his members prior to its coming to a final conclusion.

Young: Fewer visits by civil servants. There will be a reduction in the duplication of visits by government officials. PAYE and national insurance inspectors are now co-ordinating their visits to companies...

These are just a small sample of the efforts being made throughout every government department and agency to cut red tape and improve communications.

As well as concentrating on reducing domestic burdens, the White Paper also reports on progress towards cutting the bureaucracy imposed by EEC regulations and directives.

These are just a small sample of the efforts being made throughout every government department and agency to cut red tape and improve communications.

Seeking sites for storage of radioactive waste

NIREX SEARCH

Four women, one of them pregnant, were allegedly killed by a gas leak at a site near the proposed Nirex site at Wapping...

The nuclear industry knew no national boundaries. It would be sheer folly, crass stupidity, to go ahead with the order which would still public debate. Scarcely a day goes by without some newspaper headline warning that a gas leak would be safe but there was a gap in the public perception of what scientists said and what they meant.

Another site is needed (he said), whether or not the nuclear power programme continues. The Government believes that nuclear power, subject to stringent safety provisions, has a continuing role to play even if all existing power stations were to close tomorrow...

Home Office in talks on crossbows

VIOLENCE

The Home Office was discussing the problem of crossbows and the Secretary of State, Mr Nigel Lawson, said...

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Mr Channon is uncertain factor

Mr Baker, Mr Younger, Mr Walker, Mr Clarke, Mr Rifkin, and Mr Fowler - to say nothing of the uncontrolled missile that Mr John Biffen has become? Some of these she has to have, but others she has promoted as a deliberate political act.

Mr Channon is uncertain factor. The wide range of her non-economic appointments can easily pass unremarked, however, if one focuses too much on the departure of the Pym and the Stoves, Prominent wets have indeed been weeded out one by one.

'Dangerous situation' at Wapping

PRINT DISPUTE

Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, told the Commons that he gave credit to those Labour MPs who had been trying to shed light on the darkness of the situation at Wapping. They had been helping to establish some degree of contact, not yet quite sufficient, between police and print unions.

Mr Hurd: Some leading members of the Opposition both inside and outside the House and particularly in London and Manchester take every opportunity without proper investigation to blacken and snipe at the police.

Mr Hurd: We do not need an inquiry to establish these facts. Those concerned repeatedly condemn themselves out of their own mouths.

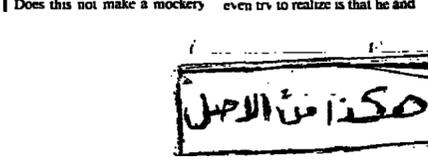
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Prisoners hold 'hooch' parties in short-staffed jails, officers claim

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Illegal "hooch" is being brewed in jails because there is a shortage of staff to search properly, Mr John Bartell, chairman elect of the Prison Officers' Association, told *The Times* yesterday.

He said: "At Maidstone, which has specially-selected long-term prisoners, there was a 'hooch' party recently and one prisoner ended up in hospital."

Mr Bartell referred to prisoners' home brewing in a speech to the association's annual conference at Folkestone, Kent.

He told *The Times* that the prisoners either got crude ingredients for brewing from the kitchens or it was smuggled in. Gallon containers, used to brew up, were concealed in a dormitory, workshop or church. Chamber pots were also used.

Mr Bartell said that at Ranby Prison, Nottinghamshire, it was possible for an inmate to complete a six-month sentence without his possessions being searched simply because the Home Office has reduced staff availability for that task.

There was a high level of indulgence in "hooch". In one top-security prison staff regu-

larly found gallons and gallons of it, Mr Bartell said.

Officers saw "hooch" parties as another sign of the internal stresses of which the association has long been warning.

"You can understand now why we have such a difficulty with drugs," Mr Bartell said. "The reduction of staffing for searches has created circumstances which have enabled prisoners to increase the already horrendous rate of drug abuse."

Libel writ over riot allegations

In an unprecedented move, leaders of the Prison Officers' Association said yesterday that a writ for alleged defamation of seven officers was being served on Mr Gordon Laker, Deputy Director General of the Prison Service.

It arises from a statement Mr Laker is alleged to have made during the prison troubles. The association is seeking an apology with damages, an injunction to prevent a repetition and an indemnity for legal costs.

A statement, loudly applauded at the association's conference, alleges that Mr Laker defamed officers at

Gloucester Prison. He allegedly said that they had incited prisoners to riot, whereas the reverse was true.

"So far from encouraging prisoners to take part in violent protest, the officers had attempted to persuade them to return to their cells," the statement said.

At the request of the Gloucester officers, the association had taken legal advice.

"The POA cannot stress too greatly that it is committed to doing everything in its power to assist its Gloucester branch members in the vindication of their professional reputation and the defence of their integrity as prison officers."

Conference called for action by the Government against the threat of Aids in prisons. Officers want all inmates from high-risk groups - homosexuals and drug users - to be isolated until blood tests showed negative results.

Within three months the Prison Department should provide cells in isolation units, separate from accommodation for non-infected inmates. The unit should have medically-trained staff with all possible safety precautions and protective clothing to minimize the risk of infection.

'Restrict firearms' plea by policeman

Police on mainland Britain should resist becoming an armed, paramilitary force, a police officer from Northern Ireland said yesterday.

Mr Alan Wright, chairman of the Ulster Police Federation, said: "Keep firearms in the hands of as few, selected, highly-trained officers as the law and order situation permits."

He told the annual conference of the Police Federation of England and Wales at Scarborough: "I would urge you not to accept any measure which, in the long-term, would corrupt the ideal of an unarmed service. Your police service, on this point alone, is admired the world over. You must keep it like that."

All police officers in Northern Ireland now carry guns, but he said they strove towards the goal of an unarmed civilian police service. Mr Wright, who was given a standing ovation, said: "The spread of arms within the police service brings dangers to officers and the public."

"You must select your officers carefully. You must maintain the highest standards of weapon training and, even then, you are going to have accidents to the public. But you will also have accidents among officers, especially young policemen."



A medieval knight using later technology during opening ceremonies at Prudhoe Castle, Northumberland, yesterday.

MPs urge control on immigration

By Sheila Gunn, Political Staff

The Government was urged yesterday to bring in stricter controls of immigration from Bangladesh after evidence of widespread fraud.

The Commons' all-party home affairs select committee also called for a ban on second and subsequent wives and their children joining their husbands in Britain.

The findings of the committee's wide-ranging inquiry into immigration from the Indian sub-continent confirmed that the level is expected to remain high for some years, although it may go down in the long-term.

Last year 17,510 people from India, Pakistan and Bangladesh were allowed to settle in Britain, out of a total immigration figure of 55,400.

The MPs called for a stricter scrutiny of those who re-applied to enter Britain after finding that 95 per cent of reapplications contained an element of deception.

Accusations that officials had an "obsession with detection of fraud" were unfair, they concluded.

"Examples exist of false relationships being maintained for as long as 10 years, including on oath before an adjudicator of entry clearance being sought for bogus relatives in preference to genuine ones; of false wives as well as false children; and of false relatives being included on

applications for the sake of financial gain".

But new procedures should be brought in to deal with complaints against immigration officials on the Indian sub-continent.

They suggested potential immigrants should be fingerprinted voluntarily to speed up entry procedures.

The committee, which visited the three countries, also described the dilemma of "reluctant brides", whose fiancés tried to bring them into Britain for an arranged marriage against their wishes.

Unless the women opposed the marriage publicly, their letters to immigration officials could not be the basis of refusing entry. But the committee has asked for sub-letters to be considered.

Mr David Waddington, Minister of State at the Home Office, welcomed the report and promised to study it. "Its conclusion clearly underlines the need to maintain firm control which prevents abuse and the need for immigration rules designed to prevent the use of marriage for immigration purposes".

The Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants described the report as "complacent and superficial".

Second Report from the Home Affairs Committee on Immigration from the Indian Sub-continent, Vol 1, (Stationery Office, £5.10).

Policeman accused of wounding

By a Staff Reporter

Committal proceedings against Douglas Lovelock, a police inspector accused of unlawfully wounding Mrs Cherry Groce, began at Bow Street Magistrates' Court in London yesterday.

Mr Lovelock, aged 42, is charged with unlawfully wounding Mrs Groce, aged 38, mother of six, during a police raid at her home at Normandy Road, Brixton, south London, on September 29 last year. Mrs Groce suffered spinal injuries, and was paralysed.

The committal is expected to finish today. Reporting restrictions were not lifted.

Libel suit win by travel chief

A travel agency chief won "substantial" undisclosed libel damages yesterday in the High Court in London over a newspaper article which suggested he was involved in organizing a rebel professional rugby tour to South Africa.

Mr David Wyndham Lewis, of Beulah Road, Rhiwbina, Cardiff, along with Welsh Sports Travel Ltd and Lewis Griffiths Travel Ltd, sued Associated Newspapers over an article in *The Mail on Sunday* in March 1984.

Science report

Peptides lead war on viral diseases

By a Special Correspondent

A new approach to the treatment of viral diseases has opened with the discovery by a team at the Medical Research Council's virology unit in Glasgow of how to shut down a virus's own reproductive system.

From it could come a new group of elegant anti-virus drugs which, instead of applying the block-buster methods as with antibiotics in destroying bacteria, would employ "umbrella-tip" poisons, injecting infected cells with substances harmful to the virus but not the patient.

Dr Howard Marsden, leader of the team, whose findings are published in the latest edition of *Nature*, said: "You cannot use antibiotic methods against viruses because they are intimately bound up inside cells. You would destroy the patient's cells as well as the viruses."

The discovery exploits the fact that there is an essential enzyme without which certain viruses, including human herpes viruses, cannot synthesize their own nuclear material. The enzyme was found to comprise of two distinct parts, one larger, one smaller.

The Glasgow scientists have succeeded in synthesizing in the laboratory a peptide molecule, resembling a region of the smaller part of the enzyme. That man-made fragment can displace the natural piece of the enzyme. When in position, it locks itself on the larger part, preventing the enzyme's two pieces joining together again.

In fact, several peptides have been found to be effective in laboratory experiments. But they have yet to be introduced inside animal cells to attack the virus in living conditions. The research group are looking for an industrial partner, particularly a pharmaceutical

£14m HQ opens to an award

By Charles Kneivitt, Architecture Correspondent

The Duke of Gloucester opened the £14 million international headquarters of Blue Circle Industries at Aldermaston, Berkshire, yesterday, when it was also announced that the building had won the Concrete Society award for excellence in concrete construction.

Mr Richard Gilbert Scott, of Sir Giles Scott, Son and Partner, the architects, in partnership with D Y Davies Associates, said that he hoped the building "would give concrete a good name". Appropriately, the company's lake-side offices were built using 6,000 tonnes of cement and 18,000 cubic metres of concrete.

Portland House is on the 137-acre Aldermaston Court estate, and is the base for 400 staff moved from central London, last September. The Victorian manor house in the grounds has been restored.

The award was given for "a finely detailed building in a splendid setting which demonstrates complete versatility in the use of concrete internally and externally".

The new headquarters is designed as a series of interconnected pavilions linked by two large glass atria. The lake-side slope has been used to create a stepped building of from three to five storeys.

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Government

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White Paper on deregulation

Government moves to cut red tape

The Government yesterday announced a set of wide-ranging moves to reduce the burden of bureaucracy on businesses.

In a White Paper on cutting red tape, *Building Businesses...Not Barriers*, it outlined 81 proposals to tackle unnecessary regulations affecting planning and the environment, tax, employment and social security, government and business, transport and home affairs.

Lord Young said that businessmen could not fail to be struck by the weight of demands from government departments through forms, visits, inquiries and information requests and that he wanted to tilt the balance of advantage away from bureaucracy and towards business.

A central task force has been created to vet all new proposals for legislation and to investigate the reason for the regulation, its impact on business and its wider effect on society. The main proposals are:

Environment

Planning rules are relaxed

The Government intends to allow a wider range of changes of use of buildings to take place without planning permission.

It will enable permission to be granted for two or more alternative uses, allowing changes between them without the need for further planning applications. (That will, for example, help "high-tech" businesses.)

A consultation paper will be published on possible changes to simplify and improve the development plan system. It will consider allowing shops and offices to be extended within certain limits without planning permission.

The effects of the refusal of planning permission on businesses are being examined. It wants to encourage flexibility in the use of redundant agricultural buildings through new advice to local planning authorities.

The scope for rationalizing and simplifying existing regulations on environmental protection will be examined.

Customs and Excise

Review of policy on VAT

A review will be set up of policy on value added tax towards small businesses to consider accounting for VAT on a cash basis rather than using invoices, and an instalment system for paying the tax.

The procedures for VAT registration and deregistration will be reviewed, as will the practical operation of free zones and the treatment of VAT.

The Government will monitor the effects of the new VAT penalty system and will set up a pilot scheme for joint visits to traders with the Inland Revenue.

Fees and annual renewal of licences to produce or process excisable goods such as alcoholic drinks will be abolished.

Tax and Insurance

Official forms to be simpler

The Pay As You Earn form P11D will be reviewed with a view to reducing record keeping for payments in kind. PAYE form P35 which employers use to give end-of-year summaries of the tax and pay of employees will be modernized.

Stamp duty procedures will be simplified to exempt many documents from the need for stamping.

Procedures for calculating capital allowances on machinery and plant with short economic lives will be simplified.

A new computerized system will be introduced to reduce

delays in the issue of the certificates needed by self-employed construction workers under the "14" scheme.

The Government will publish a short and simple leaflet about tax for people setting up in business and explanatory leaflets on PAYE audit visits and investigations. Models for employee share schemes will be prepared.

Employment law

Action on unfair dismissal

The Government will consider action to deter ill-founded claims of unfair dismissal through the possible introduction of a fee for employees (returnable in most cases) before taking a case to an industrial tribunal.

It will extend from six months to two years the qualifying period after which employers are required to give a detailed statement of reasons for dismissal.

It will exempt firms with fewer than 10 employees from the requirement to allow a woman to return to work within 29 weeks after the birth of a child.

The requirement will be removed for vocational training bodies to seek a ministerial designation under the Sex Discrimination Act before offering courses to one sex only.

Companies with fewer than 20 employees will be exempted from the requirement to provide staff with a written statement on disciplinary and grievance procedures.

It proposes to restrict the existing wide range of industrial relations duties for which time off with pay must be allowed to the scope of trade union recognition by the employer.

The hours of work thresholds above which employees qualify for the main employment rights will be increased.

There will be consultations on proposed changes to the regulations governing protection of employment when a business changes hands.

A survey will be conducted of outdated health and safety legislation.

Simple but informative posters will be prepared setting out health and safety legislation in place of posting up the Factories Act.

It will undertake a study to quantify the benefits of transferring all health and safety inspection to the factory inspectorate.

Sample testing will be made of a model employment form and a notice board kit to simplify paperwork for employers and promote effective communication at the workplace.

Social security

Inquiries reduced

Inquiries of employers about the earnings and employment records of their employees will be reduced. The scope for establishing inquiry points for employers will be considered.

Maternity allowance and maternity pay will be combined and the rules for contracting-out pension schemes simplified.

Home departments

Changes for firearms

Simplified certification for firearm dealers will be introduced.

New regulations will be introduced requiring fewer staff to be present in certain circumstances in cinemas during performances.

A further consultation paper will be issued on changes in the fire precautions regulations.

Interested parties will be consulted with a view to the abolition or relaxation of a number of licensing requirements.

The requirement for billiard halls to be licensed and allowing them to operate on Sundays will be abolished.

The Enterprise and Deregulation Unit has been pursuing a number of issues with departments: more business liaison points will be set up; scope for more direct consultation with individual businesses will be increased; market research will be used to establish business understanding of regulations.

Databases will be developed for small firms and others and making them more widely available.

Civil Servants will be encouraged to adopt a more personal approach in dealing with businesses (for example by including their names on all letters).

Transport

Hire car law to be studied

A review will start early next year of the legislation governing taxi and hire cars in England and Wales.

The working of the recently revised conditions of appointment for MOT garages will be reviewed.

Further improvements will be considered in the goods

vehicle operator licensing system.

The Government will actively negotiate for a more liberal international coach market within the EEC.

Trade and industry

Company accounts simplified

The form and content of small company accounts will be simplified. The scope for making it easier for companies to disincorporate will be explored.

Consultations will be held on the amount of information companies are required to file with the companies registration offices.

The abolition of the rule which requires registered companies to specify in excessive detail the range of their activities will be considered.

The Government will examine the scope for simplifying the law relating to company charges and certain forms of security given for loans.

It will review the export licensing system and its effect on business and will publish a user guide to the system.

It will introduce open individual export licences to simplify exports to the other countries of the Western alliance.

Licences for the use of low power radio devices will be eliminated and a study commissioned of the scope for applying market forces to the allocation of radio frequencies.

It will consult the insurance industry on modifications to the Policyholders Protection Act.

Consultations will be held on simplifying the Advertisement Regulations of the Consumer Credit Act.

Food and agriculture

Control of pests

Proposals are made to simplify and consolidate the numerous Orders under the Plant Health Act 1967.

The scope for simplification of the procedures for issuing licences for disposal of waste at sea will be examined.

The Government will review the need for annual renewal of licences for pest control.

It will review all MAFF licences by the end of 1986.



Nuffield Lodge in Regent's Park, with (below) its drawing room, which is to go on sale as a private residence



Regency mansion on sale for £8m

Nuffield Lodge in Regent's Park, central London, one of the villas built by Decimus Burton as part of Nash's grand design for the park, could become the most expensive private house sold on the open market in London (Our Property Correspondent writes).

Although some houses may have been sold privately for more, the asking price of offers of more than £3 million exceeds the substantial prices

paid for The Holmes, also by Decimus Burton, in Regent's Park, and Number 20, Kensington Palace Gardens, which in the last two years came on the market at around £5 million.

It is being sold with a 99-year lease by the Crown Estate Commissioners, with the foundation, on the stipulation that it becomes a private residence in single occupation.

Photographs: Dod Miller

Sale room £46,000 paid for Quran section

A Mamluk Quran section (estimate £20,000 - £30,000) bearing a nineteenth-century inscription to the effect that it was salvaged from a South Carolina swamp, sold yesterday for £46,200, one of the top prices, at an otherwise slow sale of fine oriental manuscripts and miniatures at Sotheby's.

At Christie's sale of fine English furniture, a group of 50 pieces of fine quality mid-Victorian papier-mâché ware did well.

A pair of ebonized and gilt japanned polescreens, usually a difficult thing to sell, each painted with a Highland stalking scene after Landseer, fetched £2,376 (estimate £800 - £1,000).

An ornate tray and a small pedestal table, both painted with a copy of the same Landseer animal painting, the "The Queen's Favourites", sold for well above their estimates at £4,536 and £2,376.

Other decorative pieces also did well, with a Regency giltwood window seat (estimate £2,000 - £3,000) and a pretty George III inlaid stillwood Pembroke table (estimate £2,500 - £3,500) fetching £5,940 each.

Before Bedford Commercial Vehicles called in Eastern Electricity Board to advise them, their heating costs for curing were in the fast lane.

The fuel-fired oven used in the sound-deadening treatment of truck cabs at their Dunstable plant was costly to run and maintain.

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Beirut rocket duel claims 33 lives

From Our Correspondent, Beirut

Christian and Muslim militias fought heavy artillery and rocket battles in and around Beirut yesterday in an escalation of violence which police said took at least 33 lives. More than 150 people were wounded during the shelling on both sides of the capital's dividing Green Line. Hospitals used radio appeals for urgent blood donations, officials said.

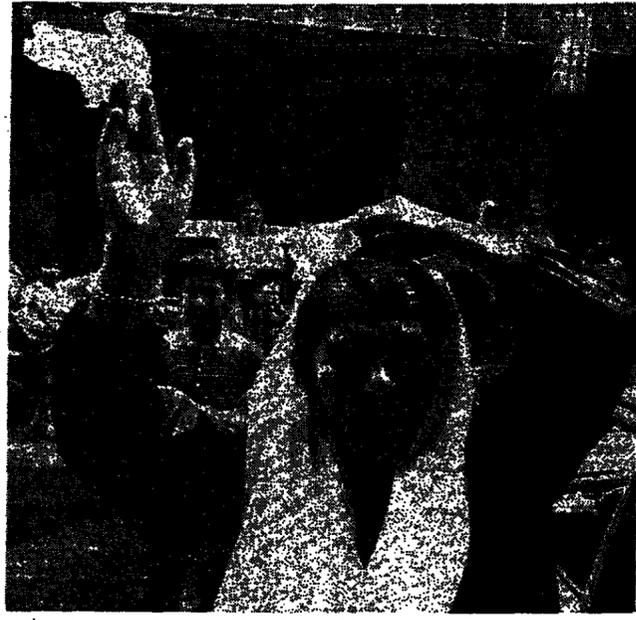
The fighting, the worst in months, shattered an uneasy two-week truce called to mark the Islamic holy month of Ramadan. It also put an end to hopes for Christian-sponsored peace talks to end the Lebanese civil war.

Each side blamed the other for the artillery attacks as negotiators began frantic talks in search of a ceasefire.

The Shia Muslim Amal militia accused Army units loyal to President Amin Gemayel of shelling densely populated areas. The Army Command said in turn that it was forced to fire to eliminate attacking Muslim artillery.

Fighting moved rapidly to the hills east of the capital, from where anti-Gemayel militiamen shelled deep inside the Christian heartland.

Most of the casualties were from Beirut's mainly Shia Muslim southern suburbs, where shells fell almost un-



A Shia Muslim grieving for six of her relatives killed in the overnight Beirut bombardment.

Lubbers to move swiftly after triumph

From Robert Schall, Amsterdam

The Netherlands can look forward to the formation of a new Cabinet within weeks rather than months, as is usually the case in the complex world of Dutch coalition politics, after the convincing victory of the Prime Minister, Mr Ruud Lubbers, in Wednesday's parliamentary election.

The Dutch election

Contrary to the Christian Democrat tradition of keeping open its option whether to work with Labour or with the conservative Liberals, Mr Lubbers made clear from the outset that if a majority in the Lower House could be maintained with the Liberals, he would continue the present Centre-Right coalition.

His party's leap — spectacular by Dutch standards — from 45 to 54 seats is against all the predictions, and is the voters' reward for Mr Lubbers's political clarity.

It will take several weeks of hard bargaining, however, before a new Cabinet can be formed, as the personal triumph for Mr Lubbers, combined with heavy losses suffered by the Liberals, has weakened the latter's prestige and influence.

Leader who came in from the Left

From Our Correspondent, Amsterdam

It is ironic that Mr Ruud Lubbers entered politics at the invitation of Mr Joop den Uyl, the Socialist leader.

In 1973, while still in his early thirties, Mr Lubbers became Economic Minister in the centre-left coalition led by Mr den Uyl. He was considered a "left-winger" in what was then the Catholic People's Party.

Today, aged only 47 and at the pinnacle of his power, he has managed to banish, or at least to silence, any remaining left-wing elements in his party.

Mr Lubbers has become the personification of what he

himself has styled as a "non-sense" government, an attitude that EEC circles say has endeared him to Mrs Thatcher.

Like his Belgian colleague, Mr Wilfried Martens, Mr Lubbers set out with great determination to find a way out of the economic crisis through a harsh programme of public expenditure cuts.

But instead of the French-style "special powers" that enable Mr Martens to rule virtually by decree, Mr Lubbers had to use his considerable political agility to gain parliamentary approval.

His talents in this field have been demonstrated time and again. He came up with a brilliant, if complex, solution to the controversial issue of the deployment of cruise missiles on Dutch soil, which met with massive resistance in The Netherlands, both inside and outside Parliament.

His answer, which left many people baffled and was in fact a way of saying "yes" to deployment without appearing to do so, earned Mr Lubbers an accolade for his "great political skills" from US Vice-President George Bush.

Ramphal backs sanctions strategy

By Nicholas Ashford, Diplomatic Correspondent

The Commonwealth is facing one of the most critical periods of its history following Monday's raids by South Africa against Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Some countries could leave the organization unless Britain imposes sanctions against South Africa.

A prominent African High Commissioner told a closed meeting of the Commonwealth's Southern Africa Committee in London that the recent raids had made dialogue with the Commonwealth's Eastern Persons Group a sham, and said the Commonwealth would be devoid of meaning if it failed to take tough action.

"Is there any Commonwealth nation which can now say no to sanctions, because it would spoil the chance of dialogue?" he said, looking at the British representative.

Sir Sunny Ramphal, the Secretary-General, said the raids were a calculated blow at the Commonwealth's mediation effort and sanctions were now the only way to promote peace.

The Eminent Persons Group is to gather in London on June 3 to complete its report. Members have been trying to get agreement on a package which calls for a suspension of violence while talks take place.

Zimbabwe holds two whites after Pretoria's attack

From Jan Bant, Harare

Two white men, one of them British born, are being held by security authorities in Bulawayo on suspicion of having helped South African raiders in their attack here on Monday.

Mr Richard Woodcroft, aged 43, who was born in Rugby, Warwickshire, and Mr Callum Anderson, a Zimbabwean aged 33, were arrested "only a few hours after the attack", according to *The Chronicle* newspaper in Bulawayo.

The paper yesterday reported that Mr Woodcroft was thought to have been instrumental in obtaining hired vehicles for at least two men and a woman among the raiders. It also said that some of the group had stayed at his home before the raid.

Authorities have established that the attackers arrived in western Zimbabwe posing as safari hunters, probably from the Caprivi Strip, a narrow stretch of Namibia touching on Zimbabwe's north-western corner.

At Victoria Falls, only 30 miles away, they caught an Air Zimbabwe flight to Bulawayo, hired cars at the airport and sped the 200 miles to Harare.

Authorities believe that after destroying the office of the African National Congress (ANC) and a house belonging to the ANC in Harare at about 1 am, the raiders drove on dirt roads to Ngezi National Park

where they were picked up and flown 240 miles to South Africa.

The Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation on Wednesday night showed film of five vehicles said to have been used by the South Africans and found abandoned at an airfield near the national park.

Mr Woodcroft emigrated to Zimbabwe in 1972 and after four years wrote a sentimental account of race relations here, entitled *Will The Real Rhodesians Please Stand Up?*

He served in the Police Anti-Terrorist Unit during Zimbabwe's civil war and at the time of his arrest was dealing in foreign trade.

Mr Anderson was also a businessman in Bulawayo. The two had been sharing accommodation for the past few weeks.

The Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, announced on Monday that four suspects had been arrested for alleged involvement in the raid. It is not clear who the other two were, whether any more arrests have been made and whether anyone arrested has been released.

No comment was available on claims made yesterday by Mr Louis Nel, the South African deputy Minister of Information, that two people were killed in Monday's raid. Mr Mugabe said the only casualty was a security guard.

David West, page 17

US bases on Mars 'by 2015'

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

The Presidential National Commission on Space released a report yesterday which envisages humans living on the Moon by 2005 and on Mars by 2015.

A year-long study, commissioned before the shuttle Challenger explosion on January 28, is entitled *Reaching the Space Frontier* and outlines proposals that seem to some to be more in the realm of wishful fantasy than likely in the present turmoil in the American space programme.

The civilian report calls on the United States to establish a step by step effort to create a "highway to space" and a "bridge between worlds" to open the inner solar system for scientific inquiry.

The 211-page report, which looks at the next 50 years in space, says the future will see growing numbers of people working at Earth orbital, lunar and eventually Martian bases, initiating the settlement of vast reaches of the inner solar system.

Solomons typhoon kills 71 islanders

SDI wins support of Chirac

Honiara (AP) — Rescue workers pulled 65 bodies from mud and debris in the Solomons Islands yesterday, bringing the death toll from Typhoon Namu to 71.

The National Disaster Council in Honiara said the storm, which struck on Monday, leaving 20,000 to 30,000 people homeless, was the most severe to hit the islands.

Mr John Selwyn, a council spokesman, said 71 people were dead and the death toll would rise. "We think hundreds died, but we still don't know how many," Mr Selwyn said. "Many areas are remote and reports are still coming in."

On Wednesday the death toll was six people and dozens were missing.

He said relief workers were receiving many offers of help from abroad. The United States, Britain and Japan have asked what specific help is needed, Mr Selwyn said. Australia and New Zealand have already airlifted emergency supplies.

Early yesterday rescue teams dug 43 bodies out of the Guadalcanal Plains, one of the worst-affected areas. Workers later in the day uncovered another 22 bodies.

SDI wins support of Chirac

Paris — M Jacques Chirac, the Prime Minister, supported yesterday to reverse the French position of opposition to the American Star Wars project when he announced that the nation could "not remain on the sidelines" of this "great, inescapable, inevitable, irrefutable movement" (Dianna Geddes writes).

He did not make clear, however, whether the Government itself would take part in the Strategic Defence Initiative research, or whether it would be left to private companies.

CIA may sue

Washington (NYT) — The CIA is considering action against *The Washington Post* for an article published about a classified intelligence-gathering operation involving American submarines, the White House said.

Jerusalem (Reuters) — An Israeli military court sentenced a West Bank Palestinian to life imprisonment for leading a guerrilla cell which killed five Israelis and wounded 16 people in eight attacks.

Marathon men

Belgrade (Reuters) — Two handicapped Britons on a 2,400-mile "wheelchair" trek across Europe are setting off for Hungary after a four-day stay in Yugoslavia. Tim Marshall, aged 59, and Bill Lewis, aged 69, began the journey in London last month to boost Birmingham's bid to host the 1992 Olympic Games.

Pilots' ploy

Madrid — The Spanish Airline Pilots' Union cancelled its plans for a strike against Iberia, but announced a five-day strike against Iberia's subsidiary, Aviaco, to begin next Thursday.

Duty-free

New York (AP) — Mr Said Rajala-Khorram, Iran's UN representative, who was caught allegedly stealing a raincoat from a New York shop, was freed because of his diplomatic immunity. An Iranian spokesman denied the theft.

Lisbon blaze

Lisbon (Reuters) — Seven people died and 10 were injured when fire swept through the top two floors of a crowded tenement block in central Lisbon.

Doctors struck

Rajshahi: Bangladesh (Reuters) — At least five striking doctors were injured in attacks by patients, angered at the death of a boy aged 10 at the hospital in this northern Bangladesh town.

Gang rape

Durg (AFP) — A 29-year-old drug addict, suffering from AIDS was raped by four men in public gardens here, police said. The woman had just left a police station where she had reported the theft of a suitcase when she was attacked.

Kisser caught

Sydney (Reuters) — An escaped prisoner kissed his way back into jail by robbing two women at knifepoint and then kissing and cuddling them long enough for police to pounce.

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£2,500 up to £9,999	7.12%	10.03%
£10,000 up to £24,999	7.36%	10.37%
£25,000 plus	7.75%	10.92%
SHARE ACCOUNTS	5.25%	7.39%
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Fresh strike wave hits Scandinavia

From Tony Samstag, Oslo

After some weeks of relative calm, industrial unrest resumed in Scandinavia yesterday with public-sector strikes in Sweden and Norway.

No sooner had a seven-week strike in Finland, affecting hundreds of thousands of workers, ended at the weekend than 10,000 Swedish health-service workers, including 2,500 doctors, went on strike. They say they are prepared to stay out indefinitely.

A strike threat last night by 230,000 metalworkers foreshadowed a total breakdown in Sweden's collective bargaining system, which could affect as many as 1.6 million workers in the public sector.

In Norway, about 4,000 teachers and college lecturers stayed at home, forcing scores of schools to close during their final examination period.

Another 500,000 public employees have accepted the Labour Government's offer of an 8.3 per cent pay rise, however, averting another industrial crisis on the scale of last month's series of strikes and lock-outs which at one stage closed down the Norwegian North Sea oil and gas industry. This in turn contributed to the fall of the Conservative coalition Government.

In Sweden, the two largest private-sector unions accepted modest two-year pay deals early last month. But wage negotiations with the public sector unions collapsed last week, and talks with the metalworkers were abandoned on Tuesday.

For Norway, yesterday's developments were the first strokes of bad luck for the new administration led by Mrs Gro Harlem Brundtland, who took over after the resignation of Mr Kaare Willoch over a parliamentary budget vote.

Mr Willoch's downfall was attributed to falling oil prices which had necessitated a series of unpopular austerity measures intended to restore dwindling state revenues. No sooner had Mrs Brundtland taken office, however, than prices began to rise.

● **BRUSSELS:** Public transport, schools, postal services and many large companies were virtually paralysed yesterday as a strike by Belgian civil servants against spending cuts spread into the private sector (Reuters reports).

Commuter traffic clogged roads into Brussels for the second day of the strike, the third official stoppage in 17 days. Trains were at a standstill in many parts of the country.

Three months after King Husain formally broke off negotiations with the Palestine Liberation Organization over the future of the Israeli-occupied West Bank, Mr Yasser Arafat's influence has become a spent force in Jordan, his offices in Amman watched by plainclothes security police, his telephones tapped, his senior officials no longer meeting with the King.

But despite Israel's original delight at the break in relations between Mr Arafat and the King, the Jordanians have not dispensed with the PLO.

Mr Abu Jihad, deputy commander of all PLO forces and a member of the Fatah guerrilla movement's central committee, still lives in Amman and maintains contact with the Jordanian Prime Minister.

Indeed, when the King met President Assad of Syria this month, they agreed that pro- and anti-Arafat PLO forces

Pro-Contra rancher sues journalists

From Alan Tomlinson, San José

Mr Aviran and his journalist wife, Martha Honey, who writes for *The Times*, conducted a long investigation. Their 84-page report concluded that the evidence pointed to a CIA role in the outrage.

The CIA works closely with Nicaraguan Contra groups funded by the United States. Rival groups were feuding with Commander Pastora at the time of the bombing over his objections to an American plan to unite various rebel factions.

The report also implicated an American rancher, whose farm near the Costa Rican border is used by the Contras to launch attacks into Nicaragua.

A freelance journalist, Tony Aviran, was among those injured when the bomb exploded at a news conference in a Contra camp just inside Nicaragua. The man the bomb was intended to eliminate, the Contra leader Commander Eden Pastora, escaped with leg and chest wounds.

US threat to Nicaragua 'will remain'

Managua (Reuters) — The Foreign Minister of Nicaragua, Señor Miguel d'Escoto, said yesterday that his country would continue to face the threat of US intervention regardless of whether or not it signed a Central American peace pact.

Proposals by the four-nation Contadora group would not end bloodshed in Nicaragua, he said, because its quarrel was with the United States, not with neighbours.

Thatcher offers Russia help in fixing summit

By Our Diplomatic Correspondent

Mrs Thatcher is sending a personal message to Mr Mikhail Gorbachev telling the Soviet leader of her hopes for improved East-West relations.

She has offered to use her good offices with President Reagan to ensure that a US-Soviet summit takes place in Washington later this year.

The message will be given to the Soviet leader by Lord Whitelaw, Lord President of the Council, who leaves for Moscow today at the head of a 50-member parliamentary delegation.

Lord Whitelaw will deliver a written reply to an earlier letter Mr Thatcher had received from Mr Gorbachev spelling out his arms control proposals. He will also deliver an oral message explaining the Prime Minister's hopes for an improvement in the atmosphere between the two.

Leading article, page 13

Husain seeks Arab solidarity without Arafat

From Robert Fisk, Amman

Man in the middle: Mr Yasser Arafat, out of favour with President Assad of Syria, left, and Jordan's King Husain.

Arafat, however coincidental they may be.

In fact, only on Wednesday Jordanian security men arrested 17 people in Amman, all said to be in the leadership of the illegal Jordanian Communist Party and one of them identified as Dr Yacoub Zakiya, chairman of the party's politburo.

They are believed to be undergoing interrogation about the anti-US street demonstrations last month. The protests were quickly brought to an end, at the time by a

massive show of strength outside the British Embassy by the city's riot police.

King Husain is anxious to re-emphasise the West Bank's dependence on Jordan — especially its economic dependence — while hoping, almost certainly in vain, that a re-formed PLO will choose a more credible political leader.

The problem for the King and for President Assad is that most Palestinians in the refugee camps of Jordan, Syria and Lebanon still prefer Mr Arafat to any alternative.

President Assad and King Husain talked a lot about "Arab solidarity", that substantial phenomenon which all Arab leaders claim to seek, but they do not share together the common aim of an international peace conference in which the Soviet Union and the United States would hold equal and complementary roles — but at which the PLO would not be represented by Yasser Arafat.

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Dr. H. G. L. S. O.

Sikh terrorists kill 11 in hail of bullets at busy Punjab bazaar

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

Eleven people attending a market have been killed and five more injured seriously in the worst outrage yet committed by Sikh terrorists in the turbulent state of Punjab.

The indiscriminate killings took place in the busy bazaar of Krishna Nagar, a largely Hindu densely populated area near the Sikhs' holy city of Amritsar.

According to the local police chief, six terrorists with sub-machine-guns and 45 revolvers arrived in the area calmly, split into groups of two, and started shooting at people standing in groups or in the shops.

With the dead and dying lying around them, they regrouped in the next street and drove off in a Jeep.

Pandemonium broke out, and gangs of Hindu activists began to take the law into their own hands. They set two Sikh shops on fire and stoned Sikh houses.

Eight of the eleven who died in the shooting were Hindus and three Sikhs. They included a barber and two grocers.

One report yesterday suggested that the terrorists in Krishna Nagar may have been acting to divert police from a series of successful raids on terrorist hideouts in the Firozpur district.

The Firozpur police chief yesterday said that his men had arrested six hardcore terrorists and seized several pistols, 12-bore shotguns, ammunition and grenades in two separate confrontations.

Later yesterday Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, the Punjab Chief Minister, flew to Amritsar from Delhi, where he had been cleaning the shoes of the Sikh faithful at a Sikh temple as a penance imposed on him for ordering the police to clear extremists from the Golden Temple in Amritsar.

He visited the bazaar at Krishna Nagar and heard of the massacre at first hand, accompanied by Mr J. F. Reibetro, the new police chief of the state.

He announced *ex gratia* payments of 20,000 rupees (£1,900) to the families of the dead, and further help to the injured, and suggested that the killers had been planning to terrorise the people of the state, to spark "an exodus of the minority community from urban areas".

He said that they were trying to drive the Hindus out of the towns and to continue the migration of families from the rural areas.

They were, he thought, frustrated and desperate after he had evicted them from the Golden Temple complex.

Mr Bhajan Lal, Chief Minister of neighbouring Haryana, expressed his concern yesterday about the migration of some 200 Hindu families from Punjab to his state.

He said that both his Government and that of Punjab were trying to persuade these families to return to their homes, but that they were terrified and shaken.

Mr Surjit Singh Barnala was asked whether he was planning to deploy the Army in the most troubled districts of his state, Amritsar and the neighbouring Gurdaspur and Ferozpur. He has been urged to do so by Punjab legislators of the Prime Minister's Congress (I) Party, but said that he had not yet taken any decision.

"There are many complications in the deployment of the army," he said mildly. The bulk of the Hindu migration is from these three districts.

Last night tension was still high in the Krishna Nagar township, where Hindu vigilantes were patrolling around the bloodstained shops and streets littered with broken bricks and stones.

Tight police and paramilitary security in the area has the town virtually cordoned off to prevent any further retaliation.



Jeremiah Moore, a schoolboy injured when two kidnapers took 150 students hostage last week at a junior school in Cokerille, Wyoming, returning to class yesterday. The kidnapers died and several children were hurt in the incident.

Cuts in US foreign aid will stun Third World nations

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

The US is slashing aid to the Third World, with devastating cuts certain to fall in particular on Africa. An era of humanitarian assistance abroad, a cornerstone of American foreign policy since the Second World War, is quietly ending.

The effects will be felt in more than 70 countries at present helped by the Agency for International Development, an arm of the State Department which promotes everything from contraception in Guatemala to well-digging in Togo.

Egypt and Israel, which currently take about 40 per cent of all American foreign aid, are immune from stringent cutbacks. The rest of America's beneficiaries will pick up the dwindling remnants, in many cases suddenly leaving impoverished countries with half of their hoped-for allocation.

Foreign aid has been unpopular in America since it was begun in earnest 40 years ago. The Marshall Plan for the reconstruction of post-war Eu-

rope, the only foreign aid programme to capture America's heart and imagination, took 11 per cent of the Federal budget.

But today economic aid — as opposed to the much larger programmes of military assistance — comprises less than 1 per cent of the budget.

American diplomatic posts will be closed in some countries. The Peace Corps and the Food for Peace programmes seem certain to face cutbacks.

Judging by past opinion polls, the American public will be delighted. There is a clear national misconception that foreign aid constitutes a significant drain on Federal funds.

Representative David Obey, a Democrat from Wisconsin and chairman of the House appropriations subcommittee for foreign operations, said bluntly that in the present atmosphere he would not be able to pass a foreign aid Bill in the House floor, no matter what shape it was in.

Foreign aid is so low in the priorities these days that it is

no longer appropriated in a separate Bill of its own. "It is shoved into the appropriations process in the dark of the night at the end of the year," a senior aide on the Senate foreign relations committee told *The Times*. "These days, if you are not Egypt or Israel, you can't expect too much from Washington."

Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, is battling to save foreign aid from the worst of the economic ravages. He says angrily that only 2 per cent of the Federal budget goes to activities directly supporting American foreign policy.

Since the Eisenhower Administration there has been an uncomfortable alliance between hawkish anxious to buy political influence by spreading military aid abroad, and doves, who preferred the gentler persuasion of humanitarian assistance.

But that alliance has collapsed under the strain of the budget cutting that is being felt by every needy American.

West meets East in charity chain

From Michael Binyon, Washington

The longest human chain, stretching from the Pacific to the Atlantic, is due to link hands on Sunday for a 15-minute spectacular which organizers hope will raise \$50 million for homeless and hungry Americans.

Hands Across America will need at least six million people to line the 4,152-mile route, which snakes across 16 states, two deserts, 10 rivers, and two mountain ranges. The participants hope to link Long Beach, California, with New York City.

There will be some gaps dictated by geography and the weather. In arid areas of Arizona, Texas, California and New Mexico doctors have warned against the dangers of standing in the 100 degrees F. desert heat.

The chain, the biggest fundraising event in memory, will include stunts and gimmicks to attract the television cameras. Dwarfs will join hands with tall people in Los Angeles,

elephants will offer trunks to New Yorkers, Hollywood stars will be there, Indians will bow-wow in New Mexico, and a seal will take part in Ohio.

The logistics are formidable. Some 3,000 marshals will direct people to their allotted spots.

So far only about 2.7 million people have pledged to take part, but many more may join at the last minute.

The organizer is USA for Africa, which last year raised \$44 million for African famine relief. By charging each person taking part between \$10 and \$35 the organization hopes to raise \$50 million.

President Reagan, however, is not entirely convinced of the need for the chain. He told school pupils on Wednesday that he did not believe that anyone in America was going hungry "simply by reason of denial" by the Government.

Those who were hungry merely did not know how or where to get help, he said.

Saudi arms vote delay by Senate

From Michael Binyon, Washington

The Senate has delayed a vote on President Reagan's veto of his ban of arms sale to Saudi Arabia, giving the Democrats more time to muster their opposition to the controversial deal.

The Republicans had hoped for an immediate vote after Mr Reagan cast his veto so that those senators the White House had lobbied to drop their opposition would not have time to renege.

The Democrats, however, threatened a filibuster and so forced the Senate to delay the vote until after the Memorial Day recess on Monday.

The Administration needs only 12 senators to change their votes to make the presidential veto stick. It argues that the weapons sale is essential if the US is to retain any Middle East credibility.

Shultz petitioned Mr Ezer Weizman, the Israeli Minister without portfolio, has appealed personally to Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, to resume an active role in the peace process.

The State Department has indicated, however, that Mr Shultz has been frustrated by the lack of progress and is reluctant to return to Israel and Egypt without assurances that some real advance is possible.

Eight die in attacks by helicopter

Colombo (Reuters, AP) — Eight civilians were killed yesterday in firing by air force helicopters supporting troops trying to regain strategic points in northern Sri Lanka.

Local residents said that the helicopters were providing cover to soldiers under attack by Tamil separatists near Point Pedro, east of the city. Defence officials were unable to confirm the deaths.

The residents, contacted by telephone, said that the gunships fired on suspected rebel hideouts near Jaffna Fort, where the Army has been surrounded in its six-day offensive to regain the area from Tamil separatists.

The Army says that the official death toll in the operation to regain control of the peninsula is about 40, including more than 25 Tamil rebels, five soldiers and nine civilians. Unofficial estimates and Tamil sources, however, say that more than 70 have died.

In Colombo, the Army pulled out of the Slave Island district, where six people died during rioting and shooting by troops on Tuesday night.

An Army source, denying that the rioting was related to ethnic and religious violence, said it started after a corporal was fatally stabbed.

Work stoppage: Shops were closed and people stayed off the streets in Jaffna yesterday as the city observed a *hartal* (cessation of all work) in memory of a Communist MP (Vijitha Yapa writes).

Mr Sarath Muttetiwegama, the only Communist Party (Moscow wing) MP in Sri Lanka's Parliament, died on Sunday in a car crash.

Fallout alert system agreed

From Richard Bassett, Vienna

An emergency meeting of governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency agreed yesterday that notification of nuclear accidents in which fallout was likely to cross international borders should be obligatory.

Part of the Soviet Union's delay in informing the agency of events at Chernobyl is believed to have been caused by the fact that no member of the agency is under any obligation to inform its headquarters in the event of accidents.

The agency's credibility as an efficient observer of its members' nuclear installations has been somewhat diminished in the wake of the Chernobyl disaster. For the first few days after the disaster, agency spokesmen could only haltingly repeat press reports.

was some time before an agency statement could be issued.

The governors have agreed that, to avoid a repeat of this embarrassing situation, government groups of experts should draft international agreements to bind signatories to "early notification and comprehensive information" about any nuclear accident with cross-border effects.

The governors said they would convene a review meeting within three months to give as full as possible an analysis of the events and after-effects of Chernobyl.

They also agreed that in any future nuclear accident all steps should be taken to coordinate response and assistance. Additional measures would be implemented to improve co-operation on nuclear safety and a conference will be convened soon to examine the full range of safety measures available to nuclear installations.

Dr Hans Blix, the agency's secretary general, said nuclear power was here to stay and that there was no question of its not continuing to develop as a reliable source of energy.

The measures suggested by the board should ensure that a "second Chernobyl" was avoided.

There was scepticism, however, by several observers of the agency's activities that the governors' meeting had produced too little too late. Board members confirmed that even before yesterday's agreement members had been urged to provide prompt notification of nuclear accidents.

China bids for more space work

From A Correspondent, Peking

In the wake of recent US rocket launch disasters, China is seeking new markets, among them Britain, for its satellite launching services.

Officials in Peking have announced the signing of a letter of intent with the Houston-based Terastec Inc. to launch two satellites aboard China's Long March 3 rocket beginning next year.

China has also initiated an agreement with Sweden to launch a Mailstar satellite.

This week's *Peking Review* claims that other satellite launch deals are being negotiated with Britain, Italy, Pakistan, Thailand, Brazil, Australia, Argentina and Canada.

Launch blast: China revealed yesterday that one of its early rocket launches in 1974 ended in disaster.

Israel claims evidence enough on Waldheim

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

Israel now has enough evidence to put Dr Kurt Waldheim on trial for being an accessory to war crimes, the Israeli Justice Minister, Mr Yitzhak Moda'i, said here yesterday.

New documentary evidence and testimony now coming forward from witnesses showed that the former UN Secretary-General was personally involved in criminal acts, he said.

The Israeli Justice Department, on orders from Mr Shimon Peres, the Prime Minister, has carried out a legal inquiry into evidence about the wartime activities of Dr Waldheim, who faces a second

round in the Austrian presidential election on June 8.

VIENNA: The threats that Dr Waldheim may face trial if he sets foot on Israeli soil were dismissed here by a senior spokesman for the presidential candidate (Richard Bassett writes).

"There is no evidence that Dr Waldheim can be linked to either civilian reprisals or crimes against Jews," he said.

SAN FRANCISCO: An American prosecutor at the Nuremberg war crimes trials has said that Dr Waldheim would not have been tried on the strength of recent allegations against him (Reuters reports).

Doom year warning to megacities

From Richard Wigg, Barcelona

The world's large cities were told here yesterday they must each set up immediately a "Year 2000" task force or face catastrophe by the end of the century in the coming urban population explosion.

This was the advice emerging from a four-day conference on urbanization organized by the United Nations and closed yesterday by Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the Secretary General.

It was attended by mayors from 48 large cities, chiefly from developing but also industrialized nations, as well as government institutions.

The main thrust of the conference was that big cities must play an increased role and be given greater facilities.

By the year 2010 more than 50 per cent of the world's population will be living in urban areas, experts of the UN Fund for Population Activities told the mayors.

By 2000 there will be 22 "megacities", defined as having 10 million or more inhabitants, 18 of them in the developing countries, compared with only three such cities — London, New York and Shanghai — in 1950.

"World urban population has doubled since 1950 and may well double again before the end of the century," said Mr Rafael Salas, Executive Director of the Fund.

Experts cautioned against a comfortable view that millions flocking from rural areas of the Third World to exploding urban conglomerations necessarily implied modernization and progress.

Liberals expect an easy win

From Geoffrey Matthews, Bogotá

As campaigning officially closed amid a storm of controversy over alleged meddling, no bets were being placed on the result of Sunday's presidential election in Colombia, since all the indications point to a sweeping victory for the Liberal Party candidate.

An opinion poll published in the respected weekly magazine *Semana* forecasts that the Liberals' standard-bearer, Señor Virgilio Barco Vargas, will win 58 per cent of the vote, and the Conservative Party's candidate, Señor Alvaro Gómez Hurtado, 38 per cent, giving the former a margin of more than a million votes.

Despite *Semana's* Liberal affiliations, its poll findings are accepted by most independent observers, although some thought its prediction of turnout — eight million voters, or about 57 per cent of the electorate — was on the high side.

But certainly Señor Barco, a technocrat, has recently adopted the statesmanlike pose of President-elect rather than that of presidential aspirant, while there has been all increasing air of desperation about Señor Gómez's campaign.

That desperation was shown in a final gamble by the Conservatives in a television programme two hours before campaigning officially ended at midnight on Monday.

In the programme Señor Barco's fitness to occupy the presidential palace was chal-



Señor Barco: already acting like a President-elect.

fringe candidate, "Regina II", described various sayers, astrologer and witch.

But neither Señor Barco nor his wife is a litigant in the suit, and the Attorney General in the Government of the Conservative President Belisario Betancur had already ruled that he could find no basis for the conflict-of-interest claims.

While as a dull and stolid campaigner Señor Barco has failed singularly to generate much fire as front-runner, his personal integrity has rarely been questioned.

The likelihood is that Señor Gómez's claims will boom again by confirming the Liberals' charges that he is an extreme right-winger who would revive the secularism which led to civil war between Liberals and Conservatives in the 1950s, when his father was President.

It is fear of Señor Gómez's antecedents that has produced Liberal union at this election and thus virtually guaranteed victory for Colombia's traditional majority party.

Yet even so it is the "Hemphrey Bogart of Colombian politics", as Señor Gómez is often called — because of his strong facial resemblance to the film actor and his tough-guy image — who has given the star performance on the stump in this election.

Brilliant, lucid and witty, he is seeking his last breath — he was beaten soundly in his previous presidential bid in 1974 — and is going out, tactical errors aside, with great style.

US envoy in Spain to quit service

Madrid — The American Ambassador in Spain, Mr Thomas Enders, will leave the diplomatic service "some time this summer" to join a private investment firm in New York, the US Embassy confirmed here yesterday (Harry Debelius writes).

The timing of his departure casts doubt on whether Mr Enders will head the American side at talks on the reduction of the American military presence in Spain, requested by Madrid.

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Hippiest daze of our lives

Twenty years ago this summer, with flowers in their hair and hope in their hearts, the hippy generation tuned in, turned on and dropped out. They may have been naive but, as Isabelle Anscombe discovered, some of their ideals have grown old gracefully

Ten years ago, the punks declared an end to the laid-back optimism of the Sixties, making it an insult to call anyone an 'old hippie'. In the Yippie Eighties, hippies are reviled as drug-addicts and DHSS scroungers, associated less with love and peace than with dirty, red-eyed addicts begging in the streets of Goa. But recently there have been signs that the hippie era — which ended with the beginning of the oil crisis in 1973 — is being reviewed, if not yet revived.

Some, who established viable businesses catering to the needs of the Alternative Society, have sold out to capitalism. For others, as the Vietnam War went relentlessly on, the hippie experiment came to an end in bad trips, busts and the "fear and loathing" of the Oz trial, Grosvenor Square and Watergate.



Wendy Mandy is now an acupuncturist. In 1967, when she was 16, she came to London "from the countryside — the classic stuff, Army family and everything. I became a hippie after listening to the Incredible String Band and smoking my first joint!" She joined Richard Branson's budding Virgin organization and worked on *Student* magazine. She also ran Help, one of the first telephone help lines.



Nick Rochford abandoned accountancy in favour of "the usual drop-out syndrome". In 1968, finding he was unable to get hold of the books he wanted to read — works by, among others, Jean-Paul Sartre, Jean Genet and R.D. Laing — he and his friend, Diana Gravill, opened Compendium Books in Camden High Street, London.



Present in the past: Paul Reeves today, in his London antiques shop and, inset, when he was a flower power pillar of the rag trade

Paul Reeves, who now has an antiques shop in Kensington Church Street, was 17 when he spent the summer of 1966 in California. When he returned home, his mother almost fainted at his long hair, stars-and-stripes top hat, granny glasses and rows of beads.

Granny Takes A Trip. Hung On You and Kleptomaniac. He was the first in London to sell kaftans. After the success of his first two design companies, Sam Fig In Love and Alkasura (the name of King Arthur's favourite unicorn), he went on to open his own shop, Universal Witness, in 1970.



Released to the law: Desmond Banks spent the Sixties advising the victims of drug arrests. Now he has his own practice as a solicitor

work at anything you didn't enjoy, the worst insult anyone could throw at you was that you were a "bread-head" — in it for the money. It was a great age for the amateur and, with rents so low, anyone could open a shop. London was very village-like then; if you went to Chelsea Antique Market you'd bump into Jimi Hendrix or Eric Clapton and start chatting.

Desmond Banks got his law degree at Cambridge in 1967 and, after spending a few months in the hippie Utopia of Haight-Ashbury, San Francisco, became information officer for Release, a voluntary organization founded to help people who had run foul of the drug laws.



Sarah Jane Checkland, a top London firm of solicitors, and now has his own general legal practice (with a working juke-box in his office). "Some people see me as the Cambridge lawyer who knows what he's doing, others as someone prepared to take on the Establishment in a way that most solicitors wouldn't."



"I don't preach any message to anyone now. But I don't think I was wrong then either."

Caught in the act

"Don't scream too loud or the heavy mob'll come running!" This is no regular amateur dramatic society, as director Stephen Macklen's warning implies. Alice Douglas's all-too-effective rendition could result in the unscripted entry of hobnail boots, jangling keys and snarling Alsatians. For all the men are "liars".

Wormwood Scrubs, uniquely in Britain, has offered acting as an optional recreation for more than 20 years. With the help of volunteer out-of-work actresses and Macklen, employed by the Inner London Education Authority, a team of up to 15 convicts puts on plays twice a year for fellow-inmates and the public, raising up to £3,000 for charity.

Rehearsals begin at 5.45 sharp, four nights a week. The casting is good, when I visited, they were rehearsing *But Why Bump Off Barnaby?* a country-house whodunnit, with the absent-minded Lord Barclay played by a Burl Ives lookalike (although his broken nose does detract somewhat). And there was Clio, the resident bitch, played with limp-wristed panache by one of the men.

Apart from the bars on the windows, the uniformity of the men's dress, and the "forces' favourite" attention given to the women, the atmosphere is that of the most innocent evening class. "I think the girls are a great attraction," Macklen says. There are not many of those on the evenings attended by old age pensioners, the Women's Royal Voluntary Society and members of the public (who incidentally exclude family, as they might be tempted to try a spot of smuggling).

"It's very difficult to recruit" Macklen says. And although West Indians make up 20 per cent of the 255 men in D Wing, he has been unable so far to tempt any into the drama group. "Sometimes it's because they want to spend their free time watching television or playing darts. A lot say they just don't like the men in the drama group. They don't want to be called a poof."

THE TIMES SATURDAY

The weekend starts here

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Captured at Gallipoli

When Henry Frison put the horrors of war behind him and returned to gardening in Lowestoft, he brought with him an extraordinary souvenir, captured at Gallipoli. Christened Ali Pasha, the prisoner became a Frison pet, figuring in all the family photographs and making a guest appearance in Henry Frison's obituary. In *The Times* tomorrow, the strange tale of Ali Pasha, the Gallipoli tortoise...

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British police are tackling a new rural criminal. Pearson Phillips reports from the hedgerows

Nature trail: Superintendent Tony Hawkins on the look out

The badgers of Gloucestershire's Forest of Dean are apparently under threat from gangs coming up from South Wales, who attack their earths with terriers and spades for sport. The man at the sharp end of the badger battle is constable Tudor Davies of Lydney police station in the Forest of Dean. He has formed a badger group of non-police volunteers to keep an eye on the sets. "Twenty per cent of our known badger sets have been interfered with", he said. "Live badgers sell for up to £500 for organized badger baiting sessions with dogs."

"What I'm concentrating on now is getting all the people walking the area to keep their eyes open for rough-looking characters with spades, iron bars, terriers and possibly nets."

"You will find that most of the policemen taking on this task will already be keen on wildlife as a hobby. I got into this because I am a birdwatcher, and a member of the local branch of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds." Hence his interest in the peregrines, which have been nesting at Symond's Yat on a rockface above the Wye since the early 1980s. The eggs were stolen in 1983, and last year the fledglings were drowned by the torrential summer rains. This year volunteers and paid staff from the RSPB are mounting a 24-hour watch on the nest but they also have telescopes through which the public who visit the site can catch a glimpse of the birds.

"Dealing with the problems on the ground is a matter for officers in the police station", explains Tony Hawkins. "At headquarters I just advise and liaise. I had a conference the other day on whether we had serious badger harassment in this county and what to do about it if we had. There is a limit to what we can do. It would be nice to put a patrol on all badger sets, but with our manpower shortage that's impossible."

Someone who would know what to do or who to inform if a marsh warbler's nest was being threatened, a ribbon-leaved water plantain was being uprooted, or a tribe of anxious frogs was being cut off from its spawning pond.

Superintendent Tony Hawkins of the Gloucestershire force is one of the most recent recruits to this nationwide network. You know as soon as you enter his office that he is not quite the typical *Z Cars* policeman. In place of wanted posters on the walls are paintings of ducks by Peter Scott and a photograph of greater crested grebes. Wildlife Liaison is only his secondary job. His main post is second-in-command of traffic.

Then the Royal Society for Nature Conservancy wrote to every chief constable in the land, suggesting that each police force should have one man who would act as a focal point for all wildlife matters.

Live badgers can be worth as much as £500 a time

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 958

ACROSS

- Captured (6)
- Drain waste (6)
- Rodent (3)
- Chinese labourer (6)
- Reveal (6)
- Power group (4)
- Falkland islander (6)
- Away (6)
- Maxim (5)
- Actual (4)
- Old Welsh (6)
- Aphrodite (6)
- Of she (3)
- Off course (6)
- Ko-Ko's ward (Mildred) (3,3)

DOWN

- Coral circle (3)
- Asson (4,3)
- Actor's servant (7)
- Cream (5)
- Ice cream biscuit (5)
- Elizabethan warship (7)
- Meal bill (3)
- Sey (7)
- Musical sensitivity (3)
- Weapon store (7)
- Heavy irony (7)
- Darts double ring (5)
- Restless (5)
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SOLUTION TO NO 957

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We wish to apologize for an error in a clue (8 across) and its solution in Wednesday's crossword.

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Handwritten Arabic text: حكايا من الاصل

Sharing the caring

Should fathers have the same right to childcare leave as Continental men? Lee Rodwell hears a German view

Thomas Schabel, 39, a lawyer from Munich, took advantage of his rights to parental leave when his children Anna and Niklaus were aged three and one.

At the time — between 1979 and 1982 — he was a public employee and the law gave him the right to work part-time in order to help bring up his children.

He said: "My wife Barbara had a part-time job as a city planner and I was working full-time. We had a girl to look after the children and my mother-in-law also had them sometimes. But I wanted to have a better connection with my children."

"It took about three to four months for my office to confirm that it was legally possible for me to do it. The managers tried to persuade me not to. But I did. So for three years I worked from Monday to noon on Wednesday and my wife worked from Wednesday afternoon to Friday evening."

"I enjoyed it, but it was not easy. I had experience with cooking, but not in washing and cleaning, shopping or buying clothes for the children. This was quite difficult. But to see what the children did, to learn to know what they needed, this was the compensation. It was a good and important experience."

"My wife was not sure how the experiment would work out. She was concerned about the housekeeping — and she was right. I didn't realise it was necessary so many things should be done. We also found there were more opportunities to spend money. If two people are doing the shopping and



housekeeping you tend to spend more, also if you both have more time out of work then there is more chance to spend.

"Problems also developed at work. I worked very hard in my two and a half days but I began to feel isolated, not by my colleagues, but by my bosses. Maybe this was the price I had to pay to profit from being with the kids. I think it is a problem in any job, that employees prefer full time not part-time workers. But I also think that for some years of your life it's OK not to think solely of your career."

Thomas has since left that job and now works full-time as a lawyer elsewhere. His wife works part-time with hours which fit in with the children's school day.

So would he advise other fathers to take advantage of parental leave provisions? He says: "Although I work a lot now I still have very close links with my children. I wouldn't agitate for all men to do it — you have to have a real interest in your children and not all men will feel that way. But if you want to do it, then you should be able to. I enjoyed it and I have no regrets."

Fathers in this country could share child care if a draft directive on parental leave to be discussed by the EEC Council of Ministers next month were to become law.

Parental leave is time off work for either parent, after the end of maternity leave, to care for a child under two. The main proposals of the directive include a minimum leave period of three months per worker per child, although individual member states may fix a longer period. A part-time option if parents and employer agree, the leave period being extended proportionately, is also proposed, as well as the possibility of leave being paid out of public funds.

Parental leave is already established elsewhere in Europe — nine EEC countries already provide some form of parental leave for all or part of their workforce (see panel). But in Britain, fathers have no statutory rights to leave relating to the birth or care of their child, and the UK is the only member state with a general reservation on the parental leave proposal.

A House of Lords Select Committee has studied the draft directive, together with evidence from the Department of Employment, the CBI, the TUC, the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) and a number of other interested bodies.

The EOC says: "The adoption of parental leave is essential to achiev-

ing a more equal sharing of family responsibilities between mothers and fathers, enabling both parents to combine careers with responsible family life."

Even the Lords Committee report, published in March 1985, broadly agreed with the statutory provision of parental leave and even thought that it should be paid, although only for businesses with more than 20 employees, and only for one month.

The Government, however, seems unimpressed. In June last year Peter Bottomley, then a junior employment minister, said: "The Government's view is that the matters covered by the draft directive are best dealt with between employers and employees according to their own priorities, needs and circumstances, rather than by Government or Community intervention. The Government are also concerned at the potential costs and administrative burden such a measure would impose on employers, and we strongly believe that here and in Europe we should be focusing our energies and efforts on the main problem that faces us all — unemployment — rather than on improving the position of people who already have jobs."

Yesterday the EOC published the findings of a research project they had commissioned into the costs of implementing parental leave — the first such costing exercise to be carried out. They hope that the results

will persuade the Government to change its tune and support the draft directive next month.

The project assumed that if there was a flat-rate allowance for parental leave it would be at the statutory sick-pay rate and taxable, but it was also assumed that the service requirement to qualify for parental leave would be one year's continuous employment with one employer. Both parents must be in work (or in full-time study) and could not take parental leave at the same time. Self-employed parents could not take leave.

The next step was to estimate how many parents would then be entitled to leave — and how many would take up the option. Using figures from several sources, including the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys on live births in 1984/5, the 1983 General Household Survey and the 1984 Labour Force Survey, Sally Holtermann, a former senior economic adviser with the Government Economic Service, suggests that if the birth rate stays at the 1985 level, about 240,000 mothers and 170,000 fathers in Great Britain would be eligible for parental leave. But not all would take it — the more financially attractive the scheme, the higher the take-up is likely to be.

Given all the factors, if a flat-rate, taxable allowance equivalent to statutory sick pay was paid to those on

FATHERS IN THE EEC

FRANCE: Two years unpaid leave to either parent or the right to work part-time for the same period. If there are three or more children leave is paid at £100 a month.

ITALY: Six months paid leave at 30 per cent of earnings, which may be taken by the father.

DENMARK: Ten weeks parental leave at 90 per cent of earnings.

BELGIUM: Provision for sabbaticals enables any worker to apply for between six and twelve months leave to care for young children. Leave may be taken part-time and if the employee's position is filled by an unemployed person, social security is paid.

GREECE: Parents with one year's service in companies with more than 100 workers are entitled to three months unpaid leave per year for each child under two and a half.

GERMANY: Ten months paid leave at (£150) per month. From 1988 the period will be increased to twelve months.

LUXEMBOURG: Public sector employees may take one year of unpaid leave following maternity leave.

PORTUGAL: Six months parental leave.

SPAIN: Up to three years unpaid parental leave.

parental leave, she would expect between 120,000 and 170,000 cases each year. The women taking leave would account for about 1 to 1½ per cent of all female employees, while the men would represent 0.1 to 0.15 per cent of all male employees.

So what would this cost? According to Ms Holtermann the annual net exchequer cost for unpaid parental leave would be between £4 million and £8 million, depending on take up. If parents were paid a flat-rate £30 a week allowance, this would involve an annual net exchequer cost of between £31 million and £45 million.

She says: "To put these figures in perspective, it is worth noting that in 1984, central government spent £141 million on the flat-rate maternity allowance, while in 1984/5 the Maternity Pay Fund made payments of £61 million to employers for maternity pay."

She adds: "These amounts are very small in comparison with employers' total wages and salaries bill (£152.7 billion in the UK in 1984) or their total national insurance contributions (£11,391 million in the UK in 1984). The introduction of parental leave would increase the total wages and salaries bill by less than 0.01 per cent."

The EOC's point is that parental leave would not cost nearly so much to set up as has sometimes been implied. As for Mr Bottomley's suggestion that we should be focusing our problems on more serious problems such as unemployment, the Holtermann report also indicates that the introduction of parental leave could take between 6,000 and 9,000 people annually off the unemployment register with savings of between £15 million and £25 million.

Parental leave could be of benefit to employers. If more women were encouraged to return to their jobs after having a baby, then employers would gain by not losing experienced female staff because they decide not to return to work after having a baby.

Children chicken out

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Textbooks say that children with chicken-pox should be isolated for one week from the time when spots appear, or until dry scabs form. But in a recent edition of the *British Medical Journal*, four general practitioners conclude that this precaution is unnecessary.

They argue that chicken-pox is usually a mild disease in childhood and so is best contracted then. Keeping children free of chicken-pox simply means they are likely to get it as adults when complications can be nasty.

Furthermore, there's some doubt as to whether isolating a child with chicken-pox protects his or her playmates. The child could be infectious and pass on the disease before the tell-tale spots appear.

The only children who should be kept clear of chicken-pox are those whose immune systems have been compromised by drugs or disease (such as cancer), and in whom the illness can lead to serious complications. It is probably wiser to isolate these vulnerable children from the infection, but children with chicken-pox need only be kept away from school if they actually feel ill.

Just scoot off

After Michael Reid smashed his foot, his only complaint in hospital was with the crutches: they fell over when he propped them against walls, he found them uncomfortable, and he also became frustrated because his hands were not free when they were propping up him.

Although in theory confined to bed, he used to struggle across his room kneeling on a chair. It was then that the idea came to him: a "scooter" with a basket half the width of a chair attached to a waist-high handle and on wheels. The basket would be lined with foam and the incapacitated individual would rest his knee there and be instantly mobile.

As managing director of an engineering company in Christchurch, Dorset, it was simple for Mr Reid to put his

idea into shape: one of his staff put the scooter together in an afternoon.

The unexpected advantage of the scooter — nicknamed K9 (pace Dr Who) — is that it reduces the agony of foot injuries. When using crutches the leg hangs down, which can be tiring and painful. The K9 system means that the leg weight is supported by the basket. "Body weight is equally divided between both legs whereas crutches put an extra strain on one foot and an uneven load on the hips, as well as an unaccustomed load on the arms and shoulders", Mr Reid says.

He wrote to the *British Medical Journal* about his experiences, and he received so many requests for similar scooters that he built a couple of dozen. These are now being used by people all over the country — including a brain surgeon with a broken Achilles tendon who is able to continue operating. If the reports are favourable, Mr Reid will consider producing four models: a child's one and others suitable for short, medium and tall adults.

"It started as a joke", he said, "but I used it for two months. I hope other people will benefit from it."

Too bloodthirsty?

We look back at 18th and 19th-century practices of blood-letting and leeching with some disbelief. George Washington, for example, was probably inadvertently bled to death by his doctors in 1799. But late 20th-century practice may be just as misguided.

A report from the *New England Journal of Medicine*...



Ankle relief for patient Maggie Nightingale on a scooter

points out that many doctors still take far too much blood from patients. It is not for therapeutic purposes but simply for tests.

Dr Bruce Smoller and Dr Margot Kruskall found that the average adult patient in intensive care in Boston lost nearly two pints of blood for analysis in a laboratory, which is nearly 20 per cent of the total blood volume. Anyone who has given blood will know that it may be a weakening experience — the dangers for seriously ill patients are much greater.

Supplement benefit

A re-analysis of a study of nutritional supplements in the prevention of spina bifida and other neural tube defects (NTD) has once again cast doubt on the need for a controversial trial being conducted by the Medical Research Council (MRC).

In 1983, doctors from the University of Leeds and some of their colleagues around the country published a scientific study which provided strong evidence that spina bifida can be prevented in women who have already had one child with the disease by giving them a nutritional supplement for at least one month before they get pregnant, and in the early stages of their pregnancies. The supplement used was Pregnone Forte F, which contains iron, calcium, thiamine and vitamin B6 among other nutrients.

At the time the study was much criticized. Other researchers felt the two groups of women studied, one of which was given the supplement and one of which was not, might not have been entirely comparable. That argument was then used to justify a much larger study now being run by the MRC in which, again, some women will be given vitamin and mineral supplements while others will not.

But now a closer look at the original data, just published in *Archives of Disease in Childhood*, has further strengthened the Leeds doctors' case.

They have looked for likely sources of bias in their original study — social class, the number of previous NTD babies born to the women, the areas in which the women lived, and the women's history of spontaneous and therapeutic abortion.

Household peril

Household cleaning fluids carry hidden dangers. Recently three women suffered breathing problems after they mixed household ammonia with domestic bleach.

Their plight was reported in the journal, *Chest*, which points out that the mixture produces toxic fumes of monochloramine. The women realized that the fumes were irritating, but took them as a sign that they had simply concocted a more powerful cleaner.

Olivia Timbs and Lorraine Fraser

A prescription for life

How a British rabbi is helping Jews to find their roots



Saving souls: Rabbi Joe Freilich teaches a class of students

It is Monday evening at the Machzikei Hadass synagogue in Golders Green, north London, and former pharmacist Rabbi Joe Freilich is speaking to a hushed audience. His voice has an easy, anecdotal quality that is nevertheless gently insistent: Rabbi Freilich talks hurriedly, like a man with a mission.

His audience — a dozen or so young men and women seated at a table piled with Hebrew books — listens attentively as he tells of a clandestine trip to Russia; of how he smuggled in Jewish books, held underground meetings, and was jailed by the KGB.

"Weren't you frightened?" a woman with a spiky, punk hair-do asks. Rabbi Freilich pauses, admits that he was, and then rushes on. The woman gazes at him fixedly, a kind of hunger in her face.

Joe Freilich is in the business of saving Jewish souls. His audience that Monday night was composed of *baalei teshuvah*, a Hebrew term meaning "one who has returned". They were penitents, part of a phenomenon which in recent years has swept Jewish world-wide, most notably in the United States and Israel. Now, in a quiet, discreet fashion, it is making ground in Britain as well.

Some of Rabbi Freilich's students came from fractionally traditional homes; others from backgrounds so effectively assimilated that they had been scarcely aware of their Jewishness. But all have become Orthodox to some degree: observing the Sabbath, eating only kosher food, studying the Bible and Talmud. None bore the sanctimonious expression of the zealot; they quietly insisted they were

not "born again Jews", but merely returning to their identity.

A qualified pharmacist from Ireland, Rabbi Freilich heads Dvar Yerushalayim, a yeshiva (institute of learning) which in the past six years has helped bring some 700 Jews back to the fold in Britain.

"We do it via the intellect", Rabbi Freilich says. "We don't want just an emotional mishmash; we want people to believe that through studying, their eyes will be opened and they'll see a world they didn't know about before."

As we talk, he flicks through three photograph albums in which his *baalei teshuvah* graduates are displayed at various gatherings, feasts and weddings, and mothers fondly as he identifies each student: a former actress playing on the floor with one of his nine children; a one-time Christian missionary who underwent circumcision before Rabbi Freilich would tutor him in Judaism; and, prominently displayed, Rabbi Freilich at the wheel of a plane with one of his star pupils, Roni Fox.

Born and raised in Israel, but now a British citizen, Roni Fox was Britain's youngest ever flying instructor. Having recently qualified for her air-

line pilot's licence, she describes her life until 18 months ago as one in which she "ate, slept and breathed flying". Then came the news that her mother — the family lives in Israel — had followed in the footsteps of her two *baalei teshuvah* brothers, and was attending seminars on Judaism, and purging her kitchen of non-kosher food. Roni was appalled.

"Looking back, I realize that to me all religious people looked the same: like they came out of the Middle Ages. I thought that because of all the advanced technology, religion didn't have a place in a modern person's life."

On her next visit home she sought out her brothers in Jerusalem, determined to wear down their arguments with reason; but it was she who capitulated. She felt the first stirrings of faith, and found herself beginning to pray.

She decided to join Rabbi Freilich's daytime yeshiva, where she is the only woman. "I feel that my life is taking on such a wider, deeper dimension", she says. "When you start learning, you start discovering your own self from within."

Rivka Fried

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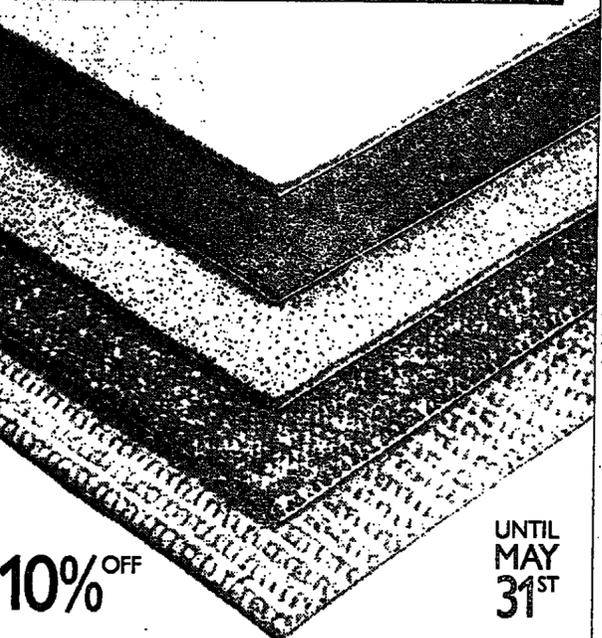
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THE TIMES DIARY

The Balfour factor

Norfolk Tories have dealt an embarrassing blow to their constituency party by demonstrating the sort of boishness more often displayed by Labour activists. They scuppered the adoption of would-be parliamentary candidate Charles Harris, who looked set to inherit the safe seat of Norfolk South West from Sir Paul Hawkins, who is to retire at the next election.

62 and '84

Orwell would have enjoyed the row. Forty years after the publication of Animal Farm, the National Theatre's adaptation has just been dissolved by the International Theatre Institute, which was to stage it at a festival in Baltimore next month.

Jumped up

It seems there is an imposter in the Conservative ranks. Burly MP Geoffrey Dickens was recently spotted wearing the distinctive colours of the Parliamentary parachute tie - awarded to 18 MPs who took part in a charity parachute jump at Aldershot in July 1980.

Peacock preface

Blood is being spilt in the BBC's attempts to become a money-spinner ahead of the Peacock report. Since April, resentment has been mounting within its publications division over a shotgun marriage with BBC Enterprises. Now, within weeks of the resignation of BBC publications chief John Holmes, book sales manager Roger Chown has quit after failing even to be interviewed for the still unfilled post of head of books.

BARRY FANTONI



Question: since he is only carrying out Mrs Thatcher's policies, how long will Kenneth Baker last?

Beginner only

Goldcrest, the beleaguered British film maker, is slipping into the world of fantasy again. After the mixed reception for Absolute Beginners, it is persisting in taking credit for a hit film which it never made - Chariots of Fire. The man making the claim on both sides of the Atlantic is chief executive Jake Eberts, much to the annoyance of the real makers. Allied Stars and Twentieth Century Fox, Goldcrest's contribution to the film comprised £17,500 "seed" money to promote the idea, which was bought up by the two companies. They repaid Goldcrest with due interest together with a "small fee".

PHS

Why Fowler must have more

As the election nears, Nicholas Timmins outlines the irresistible pressures for higher spending on health and social welfare

If the changing political climate leads to bigger public spending next year rather than tax cuts, Norman Fowler, the government's biggest spender by far, can present the Treasury with a shopping list of good causes the length of his arm, citing both political and "deserving" grounds.

The government is under unprecedented pressure over the health service after abjectly losing the propaganda battle. Ministers such as Paul Channon, the Industry Secretary, who on Question Time last week trotted out the now famous litany of more money spent and more patients treated, find much of their audience hooting in derision.

For a saving of £30 million the proposal to pay only half of mortgage interest for the first six months to unemployed on supplementary benefit cuts across the government's desire for continued council house sales and a property-owning democracy. It also frightens the middle classes who have long ceased to be exempt from the prospect of unemployment. It also smacks of a half measure. Either it is right in principle to pay the interest, or it is wrong.

Planned cuts of £45 million in housing and supplementary benefit for students, to be offset by a

mere £36 a year increase in the student grant, anger middle-class parents just as much as students. The government's social security advisory committee is unhappy over the proposal; worried ministers are consulting backbenchers before deciding whether to go ahead or, more likely, to modify the proposal.

But even before looking for money to reduce the impact of unpopular proposals, Fowler's first request to the Treasury is likely to be for £100 million to pay an allowance to married women who give up work to look after disabled relatives, since the government seems certain to lose next the test case on the issue now before the European Court. While ministers insist they can think of better things to spend the money - on an allowance for the blind, for example - the cause is popular. Changing or bending the rules to get round a European Court judgement would cause yet another political storm; and the £23 a week benefit looks a bargain against the £120 to £230 a week it costs social security to put someone in a residential or nursing home.

Further away in public spending terms, but clear on the horizon, is the case for extra cash needed for social security reforms in 1988. At present several thousand of the most severely disabled on supplementary benefit stand to lose £10 or £20 a week in real terms. The reforms do little or nothing to help those who do worst under the present system - unemployed families with children, though measures to protect either would be costly.

Changes in social security spending would also be far less popular than spending more on the NHS. Already, however, the Treasury will need to find an extra £160 million next year to meet the cost of the phased NHS pay awards announced yesterday. Failure to do so would almost certainly mean ward closures and a reduction in services in what is likely to be election year.

The Department of Health's own evidence to the nurses pay review body that an extra 1 per cent on nurses' pay alone is equivalent to 2,000 hip replacements, plus 2,000 coronary artery by-pass operations plus the average cost of 34,000 in-patient cases would come back to haunt ministers.

More money for nurses could well improve morale but would not provide extra services. In addition, pay problems are piling up in other parts of the NHS. Ancillary workers have been kept

quiet in recent years by competitive tendering for cleaning, catering and laundry services. But the squeeze on pay rates for administrative and clerical staff has made recruitment for some grades increasingly difficult, particularly in London and the South East. Health service treasurers now have to pay big sums to agencies to hire secretaries, accountants and computer personnel, some of them former NHS employees.

For all the trumpeted figures about income, from land and building sales, capital is the resource the NHS has consistently been deprived of, and in real terms this year's NHS capital allocation from the Treasury actually fell. Money is needed for projects as diverse as housing and community homes for the mentally ill.

Fowler has himself hinted at the possibility of central bridging finance to ease the transfer from the old mental illness hospitals to community care when health authorities effectively find themselves running two services at once. Astutely applied, extra money could also avoid politically damaging closures such as that of St Mary's teaching hospital in London, where the health authority is having to close the old Harrow Road site before the new wing is built. If this will be expensive. But if the Treasury does not deliver at least some of it, ministers are unlikely to convince a disbelieving public that the NHS has been safe in their hands.

The author is social services correspondent of The Times.

After being cleared of a charge of racism, Jonathan Savery talks to Michael McCarthy about a black militant threat to free speech

How Macaw tried to muzzle me



Savery: things that needed to be said

In ten days time, after the half-term holiday, Jonathan Savery will walk back into Merrydown Boys' School in Bristol, sit down with a small group of 12-year-olds whose first language is Urdu and get on with teaching them English. Or so he hopes.

That is the job he has done at one Bristol school or another for the last nine years, but he is not optimistic that he will be allowed to continue in peace despite the fact that late on Wednesday, after 13 hours of agonized discussion, a disciplinary panel of Avon county education committee cleared him of allegations of being a racist.

The very word racist has become charged with moral and emotional overtones. Most of us would go to great lengths to avoid any suggestion of it. Savery believes that in his own field of multi-cultural education the fear is so great that political activists are using it increasingly to stifle free discussion, and brought the charge against him because he refused to conform.

Savery is 37, Bristol born and bred, with a soft West Country burr. He is only attached to Merrydown. His employers are the Avon Multi-cultural Education Centre, a support service 75 per cent funded by the Home Office set up in 1977 to help pupils from ethnic minorities.

Savery himself was a founder member. "I have always been interested in teaching ethnic minorities. My first school was 50 per cent Asian and West Indian. When the MEC was set up I thought it would be fascinating to work for, and so it proved." Indeed, his credentials as a non-racist might be thought impeccable. Besides his teaching background he studied for a degree in multi-cultural education, he has many black friends and was married to a West Indian girl (they are now divorced).

The racist charge was made by a militant black group now dominant in the MEC, calling itself Macaw - Multi-cultural Education Afro-Caribbean and Asian Workers' Group. It first attacked Savery last November when he objected to its proposals that the MEC should be restructured to have a black head, a black majority on the management committee and an all-black staff. Savery called the proposals improper because they discriminated against whites.

The main attack came soon after when Macaw discovered he had written an article for the right-wing Salisbury Review attacking "anti-racism" as an ideology. The piece was bound to cause trouble. It was the Salisbury Review that carried articles by Ray Honeyford,

given the circumstances at the Multi-Cultural Education Centre, make it difficult for him to remain as a member of the staff there at this time.

There is an intransigent black group who will accept nothing less than a guilty verdict," Savery said yesterday. "If I return to the MEC I know there will be chaos. It has been an interesting experience. You certainly find out who your friends are." A pause. "Some of the people in the campaign against me were my friends."

Savery says he has no fixed political views, has in the past voted both Conservative and Labour, and gives his support to "whichever programme I happen to agree with." He did not align himself with the right.

Then why write for the Salisbury Review, knowing the controversy he would cause? "Writing in the Salisbury Review doesn't necessarily reveal my political loyalties. On this particular issue I was saying things that needed to be said, things that at

the moment are unorthodox, and so I chose a radical magazine to say them in."

He clearly admires Ray Honeyford and has met him several times. The campaigns against the two men are similar, but there are big differences between the two men. Honeyford has strong views on various aspects of multi-cultural education which he forcefully expresses. To many he seems to question its very value.

He spoke loudly of the educational disadvantage to white children when they themselves become a minority, argued aggressively against Asian families leaving their children return to their homeland during term and insisted that "the roots of black educational failure are, in reality, located in West Indian family structure and values."

Savery is a committed multi-cultural education teacher, though in an undogmatic way. He says: "I am interested in effective education that brings tangible benefits to pupils, that raises their standards and increases their chances in an increasingly competitive world."

He is also much less quick to offer or endorse fixed points of view. Asked about Honeyford's specific claims, he said: "They should be looked at in a careful, objective manner. The person making them was an experienced and dedicated headmaster with the interests of all his children at heart." But he does not jump in to agree.

Similarly, on the issue of whether the culture of the home-land should be taught in the classroom - raised by Sir Keith Joseph in his valdatory speech - Savery is hard to pin down. "These are not simple questions. What is important is that all the issues involved be looked at and freely debated."

This is the one point where Savery's opinions settle and become firmly fixed: freedom of speech. If his views on educational policy are fluid, those on the threat to free speech from the "mass racist" lobby are most firmly held.

"I would compare it to the purges of the McCarthy era in the States, in the sense that everybody who is not a declared anti-racist is held to be a racist, just as those who were not declared anti-communists were seen as communists."

People brought up in the western liberal tradition now have difficulty conceiving of a state of mind, or the situation would never arise. There is a general uncertainty throughout society of which this is part. But anything that restricts the free exchange of views must surely be a danger for any community.

Ian Murray

David Watt Botha does a Reagan

Reporting to the South African Parliament on Tuesday, President Botha made the comparison everyone had been dreading. What he had done to the ANC, he said, was no different from what President Reagan had done to Gadaffi. The trouble with this analogy is that it is almost impossible to fault. The Americans have denounced the raid on Lusaka in the strongest terms, but why is it more reprehensible to bomb Mr Tambo and Mr Mbeki than to knock hell out of the Colonel? Why shouldn't Botha, like Reagan, claim "self-defence" and the dubious protection of Article 51 of the UN Charter?

You may say that the answer is obvious: the ANC are good guys fighting for liberty and justice; Gadaffi is a cruel, tinpot dictator and probably mad as well. True. Yet the ANC, like Gadaffi, is none too worried about blowing innocent people to bits; its thugs, like Gadaffi's, beat and burn opponents. Gadaffi, unlike Winnie Mandela, has never talked of hanging a petrol necktie round anyone's neck.

Al well, says the liberal conscience, the good aim of ending oppression in South Africa easily justifies a little bloodshed. But if that is so, dear liberal, why doesn't the good end of curbing Gadaffi's activities justify a little bloodshed as well? We rapidly stumble into this swamp of moral relativism and double standards over we throw away the old rule book.

Conventional international morality, as evolved from the 17th century onwards, proclaims that you do not attack another state unless you have declared war upon it, when certain rules governing the (relatively) civilized conduct of hostilities come into play. We long ago abandoned any pretence at sticking to this convention and perhaps, in the nuclear age, it is as well we did. "Illegal" low-level violence is better than a formal war that might endanger civilization itself. The trouble is that we have not managed to put any other convention in its place. Nowadays pretty well anything goes because there is nothing except subjective self-justification and brute force to go by.

This Reagan bombing of Libya (a) because doing something, anything, dramatic about terrorism solved a domestic political problem and (b) because the US was strong enough to get away with it. Botha raided Zambia, Zimbabwe and Botswana because he too had a domestic political problem with his right wing and because nobody could stop him.

Both presumably gave some consideration, however perfunctory, to the costs of upsetting allies and international opinion. But neither, I would bet, gave more than a fleeting thought to the propriety of his action in ethical or legal terms. In this sense both were irresponsible, though Reagan was arguably more so in that he gave Botha an exemplary excuse.

This Libyan analogy is a great nuisance to those, especially in the

US Congress, who are calling for immediate economic sanctions against South Africa. The arguments for sanctions remain exactly as weak or as strong as they were before the raids - unless one takes the position that the raids provide a new argument for sanctions, as a punishment and a deterrent to further malfeasance. But if punishment and deterrence are the justification of sanctions, why not punish the US, whose claim to self-defence against terrorism is no more valid than South Africa's and whose president has said he may do it again? There are no honest answers to this question except that the ANC are fashionable men of violence and the US is too powerful to be punished. As for deterrence, the Libyan analogy gives the argument yet another twist, especially for the benefit of the British. Some time before the raid on Libya, Washington pressed its allies to induce Gadaffi to behave by introducing a joint programme of economic sanctions. This suggestion was predictably turned down by the Germans, who need Libyan oil, the Italians, who feared reprisals against the Italian community in Libya, and the French, who don't like cooperating with other people, especially Americans.

But the most vehement opposition came from the British who said that if they imposed sanctions on Libya the Commonwealth would demand to know why Gadaffi was supposed to be so amenable to economic pressure when they had been saying for months that Botha was not. In other words, it was partly because of the British preoccupation with South Africa that the Americans resorted to military force.

But that the best is on again for sanctions against South Africa the British government, unlike many of its critics, can at least take credit for appearing consistent. It opposed sanctions in the one case and still opposes them as adamantly in the other. But the irony is that the argument against sanctions is actually not nearly as strong in the Libyan case as the South African. Trying to change Pretoria's policies by external pressure is as open to the same real objections as ever. Sanctions would be evaded somehow, would stiffen African resistance and, if they worked, would destroy all hope of peaceful change along with destroying the economy.

By contrast, had we imposed an oil boycott on Gadaffi by some non-military equivalent of destroying his oil jetties, we might well have achieved real pressure: Libya is small, the economy highly dependent on oil, its rulers less cohesive and determined than in South Africa.

Confronted by this inconvenient paradox, it is hardly surprising that the Foreign Secretary, in his criticism of the Botha raid, should have brusquely dismissed the Libyan connection out of hand. But it is there all the same, and we have not heard the last of it.

moreover... Miles Kington

Waiter, this cork is wine

A great deal of coverage is given these days to wines, but not much to the corks in wine bottles, so last week in our offices we held a cork-testing session to give our readers some idea of the best corks now on the market. The panel consisted of the Marquis de Saint-Ure de Sécurité, a leading French cork importer, Ozzy Mandias, the all-purpose English wine expert, Drusilla Bouquet, Winewoman of the Year 1985; and the well-known FR man, Adrian Wandour-Street, who set the ball rolling.

"Cork talk is the last unexpected region of wine snobbery," Adrian told us. "If those who are unsure of themselves when talking about wine can fall back on a bit of cork expertise, we may have made a big breakthrough. My masters, the Cork Marketing Board, want people to think cork and talk cork! Monsieur le Marquis, what do you make of this?"

So saying, Adrian plunged a corkscrew into the top of a 1983 Fleurie and expertly shattered the cork into a thousand fragments. The Marquis lovingly cradled them in his cupped hands. "It is a bourgeois cork," he said. "Reliable, but boring and respectable. I would not sit next to this cork at dinner."

"I disagree," said Ozzy, taking a large swig from the bottle. "I think it is naughty but nice."

"Whereas this," continued the Marquis, staring icily at Mandias and expertly removing the cork from a Gran Reserva Rioja, "is a blowsy, full-blown Spanish cork. This cork is all woman. Feel her waist. She is good to the touch, this cork."

Drusilla agreed, blushing. "I think this Fleurie is very good," said Mandias, taking another swig. The Marquis swiftly removed the cork from a Libyan sparkling wine, and shuddered. "Now, here we have a cork with no breeding at all. Where can this wine have been dragged up? I hate to think Cest un bouillon barbare, mes amis."

"I think this is the most boring party I have ever been to," said Ozzy Mandias, putting down an empty Fleurie bottle. "Look, I've got some other invitations in my pocket - let's go on somewhere

else and get happy!" "I agree," said Drusilla unexpectedly.

Fifteen minutes and a taxi ride later, we were all entering a small room somewhere in St James's, piled high with books and full of people saying things like Rubbish! Taut! Well-constructed! A Trifle Fay Weldonish For My Taste!

"It's the Booker Prize pre-selection party," confided Ozzy to us. "Usually an amazing thrash." A book flew past his head followed by a cry of "Brookner's Last Symphony!" Ozzy opened a bottle of Chateau Cissac he happened to have on him and vanished into the fray. The Marquis caught the cork. "Mmm," he said, "an upwardly mobile cork, this. Not much heart, but many career prospects." The new Iris Murdoch caught him on the temple and he fell stunned.

After the party really took off. Fragments of talk came to my ears. "This William Boyd was very little nose..."

"The Chateau Yquem of the paperbacks..."

"Try a snoutful of this D.M. White - over the top, think 'I agree' and 'Whoops! This Joan Collins is a bit lively!'"

"Right on to the next party," said Ozzy Mandias, reappearing from the throng with a lady novelist in tow, and twenty minutes later we were all at the pre-party for some opera festival or other.

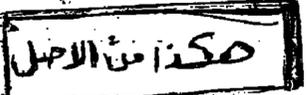
"Another forgotten piece shall be presenting," said an earnest voice through a loud-speaker, "is The Italian Straw Bottle by Lambrosco..."

"Never mind about that!" cried Adrian, striding forward. "Here is a forgotten crate of Chateau Palmer - and it's all on the house! For my money, one of the great corks of all time!"

In the ensuing melee I lost sight of our panel, apart from a glimpse of the Marquis singing a duet with Ozzy, until I came face to face with Adrian in the cloakroom, the only place where you could still breathe.

"Quite sensational, these cork parties, eh?" he cried, sniffing what looked like the bung from a Chateau Latour.

"I agree," said a voice from underneath the coats.





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UNDESERVING CASES

Beneath yesterday's pay awards it is difficult to discern anything more than sentimentality, Schadenfreude, and expedience. The Government has played to the gallery. Perhaps it hopes that making an Aunt Sally of the mandarins will win applause; being generous to nurses (without adequately compensating the National Health Service regions that will have to find the money for their pay) will surely make a good line in a political speech.

organizations are now making. Instead the case is made as the beneficent recognition by a "caring" government of the employees of the NHS. Of course, the Government's generosity is qualified. The pay award is to be staged, lessening the impact on the annual aggregates. It is, moreover, mostly to be financed by that wonderfully mobile variable of public administration in the 1980s - "efficiency savings". When in doubt, put in one of Mr David Stockman's celebrated asterisks or chalk it up to unspecified efficiency savings. Last year the Plowden Committee produced data on the Civil Service's problems of retaining people (in grades several notches below that of permanent secretary), plus some airy notes on morale. What it did not do was make a convincing case for the scale of its awards. What was objectionable, too, was the general-ity of the awards in a managerial climate in which emphasis is rightly being put on individual performance.

the envious emotion that public officials do not deserve high salaries (because, by implication, the State's service should be carried out by second-raters or for love). Mr Lawson's argument is a simple one: because they got an award last year, they do not need the money this. What he is really saying is that the public finances cannot afford to meet the review body recommendations. No argument can be stronger. It does, however, call into question the existence of these disinterested committees making recommendations outside the context of available public money. Deciding levels of public service pay is bound up with budgetary and fiscal judgement. It is thus inherently political. To farm judgements out to review bodies and then to override them because of superior Treasury wisdom or the political climate brings discredit on the process and gives rise to unfillable expectations. Far better to institute to ad hoc reviews of particular problems in recruitment to the public services and leave the politicians to make such use of the evidence as financial circumstance allows.

RED TAPE BLUES

Unnecessary red tape deters enterprise and reduces employment, not least because taking on a new worker wraps an employer in a web of costly responsibilities beyond the need to provide a wage and decent conditions. The effect was generally recognized a decade ago. But ingrained habits in Whitehall and Westminster have still not really changed. That is the rationale behind Lord Young's programme to lead out over-regulation and antique restrictions and to make it simpler for business to comply with the genuine demands imposed by legislation. Even judged by such sympathetic standards, however, the upbeat presentation cannot disguise the disappointing contents of the latest deregulation White Paper.

that he would not be responsible for a job-creating Bill to relax public house opening hours, another proposal in the last package. The department has also "implemented" its proposal to set up an Enterprise and Deregulation Unit to vet legislative proposals. That is sorely needed. Yet while Lord Young was limbering up to propose that initiative, his Cabinet colleagues were pushing through two items of legislation that have caused more bother and alarm to small businesses than all the red tape he has swept away. The chaos caused by implementation of the 1984 Data Protection Act became fully apparent as the deadline for registration of hundreds of thousands of businesses came and went, while the tougher regulations on VAT collection in the 1985 Finance Act have caused countless sleepless nights among perfectly honest small businessmen.

Much of the purpose of Lord Young's programme is to nag and educate Whitehall into a different mode of thought that gives the efficiency of business a higher priority, so that other departments will not need to be monitored. It is important, nonetheless, for the programme to learn from past mistakes. The most significant and controversial group of proposals in the latest White Paper are those for further relaxation of the employment protection laws, particularly those to deter frivolous claims for unfair dismissal, to exempt more small firms from the obligation to keep mothers' jobs open after childbirth, and to raise the threshold of hours worked for employees to qualify for the main employment rights. These changes would undoubtedly make more employers happier to take on new workers and would improve the labour market by making it more flexible. But they would, for instance, introduce de facto discrimination against women workers and give a hidden incentive for employers to push more people into part-time jobs that might not be capable of supporting a family. They also point to a more transatlantic pattern, where companies employ a few key permanent employees and many more floating casual workers rather than to the German/Japanese model that lies behind the Chancellor's recent proposals for profit-sharing. Such reforms may well be useful but it would be a mistake to attempt to push them through merely in the cause of deregulation.

DR SAKHAROV'S LONELY BIRTHDAY

Dr Andrei Sakharov, the Nobel peace prize winner and Soviet human rights campaigner, passed his 65th birthday yesterday in lonely exile in Gorky. His wife, Yelena Bonner, spent the day on the other side of the world in Washington, preparing to return to the Soviet Union after recuperating from heart surgery. Their separation was decreed by the authorities in Moscow who rarely permit spouses to travel abroad together, preferring to keep one hostage to ensure the return of the other. But Dr Sakharov is a special sort of hostage. Moscow has refused, over more than a decade, even to entertain the idea of his leaving the country. His wife, moreover, was permitted to leave for medical treatment only on condition that she divulge nothing about her husband's plight. For six months she has been silent; her reward - to be admitted with her husband in joint exile. That is the private tragedy. But Dr Sakharov, despite his isolation and also because of it, is a public figure, and a player in the very public drama of East-West relations. This is why his 65th birthday has been the occasion for pleas from many quarters in the West - from the US Congress, from the West German government

and from British parliamentarians, to name but a few - that Dr Sakharov and his wife should be able to leave the Soviet Union. Such a gesture would do more than anything else to salvage the Soviet leader's tarnished reputation abroad following Chernobyl. It is a thought which politicians with international influence would do well to ponder in coming weeks. Indeed, they may already be doing so. It is noteworthy that the US administration has been unusually sensitive in its most recent statements on relations with the Soviet Union, especially in the area of human rights. Moreover the presence of Yelena Bonner in the United States has not been overly exploited to score points even though her stay was extended through Dr Sakharov's birthday. She addressed congressional leaders. She did not meet the President. Similar treatment was accorded to the Soviet Union's most celebrated emigrant of recent years, Anatoli Shcharansky. His reception by the US Jewish community - and, indeed, by all those concerned with human rights in the Soviet Union - was jubilant. His reception at the White House took place behind closed doors. While Mr

Shcharansky was counselling against over-reliance on "quiet diplomacy", the President's office, so it seemed, was being careful not to rile Moscow. In the coming week there will be a further opportunity for Dr Sakharov's case to be pressed. A senior British parliamentary delegation, led by Lord Whitelaw and including among others Mr Denis Healey, will be in Moscow for talks with officials of the Supreme Soviet. Parliamentary exchanges are often only formalities, but sometimes they are more. Eighteen months ago Mikhail Gorbachov visited Britain at the head of just such a delegation. Officially, he was in Britain as chairman of the Soviet legislature's foreign affairs commission. He was also being groomed for the leadership and gauging the foreign policy mood in Britain. During that visit, the British side appealed for four Soviet dissenters to be allowed to emigrate. One of these was Dr Sakharov. The present visit to Moscow, which is in direct exchange for the one by Mr Gorbachov to Britain in 1984 and comes at an especially delicate point in East-West relations, provides an opportunity for that appeal to be pressed - perhaps, could it be hoped, to a successful conclusion?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Colleges' gift horse down in mouth

From the Vice-Chancellor of Salford University. Sir, Your article of today ("Southern universities gain from radical grants review", May 21) suggests that only "eighteen universities and colleges are to suffer spending cuts in the next academic year". Would that were so. With a +1.1 per cent change in its basic grant this university is the closest to the average (+1 per cent) for the system as a whole. Next year we will have a deficit of at least £800,000 since an increase of 1.1 per cent in cash terms represents a decrease in real terms of approximately 4 per cent. Put another way, at least 35 staff posts will have to be lost from a UGC-funded total of 980 in order to meet the problems that will face us in 1987 and beyond. Sir Keith Joseph has said he (or his successor) might be able to find some more money than for universities where there is "evidence of real progress" such as "the development of the policy of selectivity and the rationalisation and where appropriate closure of small departments, better financial management and improved standards of teaching". Since 1981 this university has lost 153 academic staff and 295 other staff; closed four small departments; increased the fraction of its non-UGC income from 16 per cent to 41 per cent; seen the number of first-class degrees awarded to its students rise by 58 per cent and the value of research contracts per full-time member of academic staff more than triple. Why should I (or anyone else) believe a word Sir Keith Joseph (or his successor) says? Yours sincerely, JOHN ASHWORTH, Vice-Chancellor, University of Salford, Salford, Greater Manchester.

Heroes of their chosen fields?

From Mr Graham Chainey. Sir, Ian Botham, like many other sport and entertainment personalities, may be hero-worshipped, but to call him "a hero in every sporting sense of that word" (leading article, May 19) shows only to what extent the word has been debased. Heroism, in any true sense, implies the relegation of personal benefit to that of a wider cause, the risk of the individual for the welfare of the many. Technical mastery is subordinated to self-mastery; the heroic example inspiring others to greater life. Perhaps among the firefighters of Chernobyl were many heroes. Today, we are embarrassed by that. Our heroes of old are re-examined to see if they did not have feet of clay, while in their place we promote figures who reveal candidly in their own defects and motives. On all sides we see the idolatry of those whose technical discipline is accompanied by chaotic private life, whose victories are achieved through tantrums, whose aim at bottom is self-promotion, who are more keen to extract from their chosen field than to give to it, and whose imitation is more often for the worse than the better. The cult of the celebrity replaces the kudos of the hero. They may loom large in the public consciousness, but let us not delude ourselves as to what they are and are not. Yours faithfully, GRAHAM CHAINEY, 47 St Barnabas Road, Cambridge, May 19.

Heroes of their chosen fields?

From Mrs Ann Harper. Sir, Pearce Wright's article (Spectrum, May 12) raises many important points and not least the matters of international control and the considerable variances in safety regulations regarding nuclear energy. The article also calls the International Atomic Energy Authority (IAEA) a "paper tiger", but goes on to talk about the need for member countries to agree to give the organisation the power to take initiatives. I would fully support the argument that, in keeping with the intentions of the UN Charter, both the IAEA and, indeed, all parts of the United Nations system need strengthened mandates if their effectiveness is to grow. People often complain that the UN has "failed" to do this that, or the other thing. But who are the United Nations? Quite simply and ultimately the 159 member states. If they are willing to use the UN properly and to agree adequate mandates, their very important results can be achieved. I would thus urge a massive upsurge of public insistence, through the United Nations Association and others, that our Government takes a lead in seeking the strengthening of the UN - a process to which it hardly seems committed at the present time. Yours sincerely, ANN HARPER, The Cottages, Church Lane, Oxfordshire, May 16.

To them that have

From the Rev M. A. Wimshurst. Sir, A minister's view of Wandsworth from Putney (feature, May 13) is very different from that of a vicar. Many Putney babies, abandoned by their fathers, are rehoused not in Mr Mellor's constituency but on our Battersea high-rise estates. In Putney households have indeed reaffirmed, by their recent vote, that they are not prepared to pay more than their present £1.27 a week rate for all the services provided by Wandsworth Council - parks, swimming pools, libraries, social services, housing, roads and refuse collection. Houses in Putney have increased in value fourfold in the last eight years. The last census revealed that over 40 per cent of those who live on our Battersea high-rise estates are under 24. On these estates,

Chernobyl disaster

From Mrs Ann Harper. Sir, Pearce Wright's article (Spectrum, May 12) raises many important points and not least the matters of international control and the considerable variances in safety regulations regarding nuclear energy. The article also calls the International Atomic Energy Authority (IAEA) a "paper tiger", but goes on to talk about the need for member countries to agree to give the organisation the power to take initiatives. I would fully support the argument that, in keeping with the intentions of the UN Charter, both the IAEA and, indeed, all parts of the United Nations system need strengthened mandates if their effectiveness is to grow. People often complain that the UN has "failed" to do this that, or the other thing. But who are the United Nations? Quite simply and ultimately the 159 member states. If they are willing to use the UN properly and to agree adequate mandates, their very important results can be achieved. I would thus urge a massive upsurge of public insistence, through the United Nations Association and others, that our Government takes a lead in seeking the strengthening of the UN - a process to which it hardly seems committed at the present time. Yours sincerely, ANN HARPER, The Cottages, Church Lane, Oxfordshire, May 16.

Lawyers' fees

From the Chairman of the Criminal Bar Association. Sir, In his latest article (May 21) about the legal profession, Mr Alastair Brett suggests that the Bar's present exclusive rights of audience will cost the public purse more than if solicitors shared those rights in the Crown Court. We now have clear evidence relating to one area of work which is to the contrary. The Crown Prosecution Service will need to use barristers and solicitors in private practice to conduct whole list work in the magistrates' courts. Instructions have been switched off so there is no should be a national minimum of £60 for a half day and £85 for a full day.

Single European Act

From Mr William Cash, MP for Stafford (Conservative). Sir, Sir Frederick Catherwood, MEP writes (May 13) on the basis that the House of Commons did not know about the Single European Act until the arrival of the European Community (Amendment) Bill. This is absolute nonsense. On Wednesday, March 5, 1986, the main five-hour debate in the House of Commons concerned the Single European Act. Indeed, the Government accepted an Opposition amendment which called for more effective scrutiny of proposals arising from the many amendments to the basic European Community Treaties which would flow from its adoption. During that debate, there was frequent reference to the special report (HC264 of 85/86) of the Select Committee on EEC Legislation of which I am a member. This dealt in detail with the single European Act and was published on February 26, eight weeks before the second reading of the European Communities (Amendment) Bill itself on April 23. Yours faithfully, WILLIAM CASH, House of Commons, May 15.

Citizens' trust

From Lord Kilmarnock. Sir, As members of the SDP Policy Committee's motion on profit-sharing and wider share ownership at our recent meeting at Southport, may I correct the impression conveyed by Mr Gravit's remarks as reported under the headline "Trust plan approval" (May 19)? The amendment carried against the platform by the Council for Social Democracy only requires "the ownership of public-sector enterprises" to be vested in a citizens' trust. There is no commitment to extend this to the private sector. Indeed, an earlier amendment which would have had this effect was defeated decisively. Nor is there any commitment to fund welfare through a social dividend rather than through general taxation. Yours faithfully, KILMARNOCK, House of Lords, May 19.

A vintage run

From Professor Christopher Riley. Sir, I was delighted to read Miles Kingdon's piece upon supermarket trolleys (May 14). Sadly he made no mention of the unfortunate change which has come about as the trolley has developed over the years. The centre of gravity has moved rearwards as the size has increased, and the delight that one has in leaning against a full trolley with both feet on to the rear bottom crossrail to see how far it was possible to steer the thing before coming to rest or running into the display shelves has gone. My longest run, on a vintage trolley, was about 15 yards in Sainsbury's. The floor surface was dry, the air conditioning was switched off (so there was no following wind) and the run took place at teatime. Can anyone better this? Yours faithfully, CHRISTOPHER RILEY, University of Nottingham, Department of Architecture, University Park, Nottingham.

Hospital cuts

From the Chairman of the North East Essex Health Authority. Sir, There are obviously many different arguments over health services financing but I would like to correct the misleading interpretation of Dr Durance (May 21) who is one of many dedicated consultants providing valuable services in my health authority. We in North East Essex have benefited from a brand new district general hospital, built at a cost of £16 million, of which the whole community is rightly proud. We have received £7.3 million per annum to improve our acute services and over the last year we have treated 3,500 extra cases, a 13 per cent increase in work. This has been achieved by rationalising hospital beds, making better use of them and increasing day surgery. We have

Forward march

From Mr David Littaur. Sir, Following Simon Rattle's acclaimed "Après l'Après Midi" concert, may I suggest "Avant l'Avant Gardé" as a title for his next series? Yours faithfully, DAVID LITTAUR, Philomath Road, Highgate, N6, May 16.

ON THIS DAY

MAY 23 1859

The writer of this article was E.S. Dallas (1826-79) for many years a major contributor of book reviews and obituaries during the editorship of Delane. The Times has a special interest in Trollope's Barchester novels for in them it is satisfied under the title of the "Jupiter". None but the fools doubt the wisdom of the Jupiter; none but the mad dispute its facts.

ANTHONY TROLLOPE

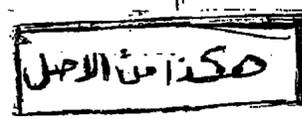
... at the present moment our writer in England is paramount above all others, and his name is Trollope. He is at the top of the tree; he stands alone there in nobody to be compared with him. He writes faster than we can read, and the more that the pensive public reads the more does it desire to read. Mr. Anthony Trollope is, in fact, the most fertile, the most popular, the most successful author - that is to say, of the circulating library sort... There are people who find Mr. Trollope too thoughtful and Mr. Dickens too comic, who are tired of fairy tales and curious whims, who have had enough of the heavenly mamma, and who long for the flesh-pots of Egypt. Mr. Trollope is the very man for them. There is no pretence about him, no shamming, no affect. He is always severe, often amusing, being great, but his predominating faculty is good sense... His style is the very opposite of melodramatic; it is plain and straightforward, utterly devoid of claptrap. It is the style of a man who has a good deal to say, who can afford to say it simply, who does not attempt to give his readers innocent and rational amusement...

Perhaps Mr. Trollope carries his aversion from everything melodramatic to an extreme, and though he errs on the right side, still he errs. The essence of melodrama is surprise. The characters are doing things for which we were not prepared; passions are evoked which are not justified by the facts, and sentiments are expressed which have no relation to the circumstances. Everything, in short, is a surprise. Mr. Trollope, on the other hand, has vowed that there shall be no surprises in his novels. The characters are naturally evolved; the incidents shall grow out of each other; the passion shall not be exaggerated, and the sentiment shall veritably belong to the event. But in determining thus to show cause for every effect, and a sufficient motive for every act and word, Mr. Trollope seems at times to be too anxious to avoid startling results; afraid lest the reader should be taken unawares, he lets off his secret too soon, and long before he has laid down his lines of action he forewarns us of what is to happen - what is to be the joyous consummation or the dismal catastrophe which is the intended result of all his plans...

Mr. Trollope's first work was entitled "The Warden", and when we give a skeleton of the story it will be seen that in the very outset of his career as a novelist he intended to shun the system of depending upon surprises... Strange structure of a tale! The bloody villain and arch-diabolos of the story attacks the hero of the piece; the hero yields at once in his own mind; friends try to rouse his courage, but in vain; he yields, and more than yields; he gives his daughter away to the very man who makes peace with him for ever. On this slight thread Mr. Trollope has managed to hang a great deal of interest, limiting his tale to the dimensions of a single volume. The characters are well drawn - sketches rather than finished portraits, but still lifelike.

Of Mr. Trollope's next novel, "Barchester Towers", we gave some account when it appeared about two years ago. It is a continuation of the story of "The Warden", the same characters being introduced with the addition of others, and the author depending for his success not so much on what is done in the way of action, as in showing vividly the manner in which it is done. We are interested in the characters, and for their sakes take pleasure in the action, which is, again, of the most commonplace description. Mr. Trollope takes such action as occurs in the experience of everyday life - action which is in itself the reverse of strange and improbable that any one leading the most placid existence must be able to trump it with something far more stirring from his daily life. But by the calculation of character he invests his commonplace incidents with remarkable attractions, and makes us all feel that we, too, must be acting such romances to intelligent on-lookers. In this case most of the personages with whom we form an acquaintance are of the tribe of Levi - bishops and priests, their wives and their children, their man-servant and their maid-servant, their ox and their ass. We are entirely in the clerical world, and are amused with its sacred loves and righteous hatreds, its canonical talk, its red-letter incidents, and its apostolical characters...

To those who are in the habit of reading novels it is unnecessary to say that Mr. Trollope is one of the most amusing of authors...



THE ARTS

Television
Accused by the camera

Four of the Liverpool supporters facing extradition to Belgium for their part in last year's Heysel Stadium disaster admitted on TV Eye (Thames) that, while the filmed record might show them exceeding their brief somewhat with boots and flagpoles, they did not hold themselves personally responsible for the deaths of 39 Italians. And, besides, "anyone picking a stick up hitting anyone looks worse than it is, but it wasn't that bad".

Those who were being hit might well think that it did not look bad enough. What is truly remarkable is that these video-generation brayers appear not to have considered that the cameras would finger them after the event. Brought back to the scene of the crime in the hope (one presumes) of tearful self-recrimination, they merely expressed the awkwardness of hit-players unwillingly upgrated to named-roles.

The Darwinian freaks that inhabit the two-kilometre-deep canyon of Monterey Bay have no such inhibitions. It really is a fish-eat-fish world down there, as the marine biologists featured in the literally wonderful *Disc to Midnight Waters* (BBC1) discovered from the safety of their Deep Rover submarine.

The most cynical of all (fish, that is) simply lurk on the bottom with their mouths open for the constant snowfall of dead plankton, oblivious to the placid dialogue of Roger Deop and Roger Topside, though perturbed by the former's specimen-seeking Hoover.

The narration was as full-on as one would expect, though it can surely be forgiven for calling the bathysphere's progress an "intergalactic journey", with the planktonic animals in for star clusters and the streaks of bioluminescence for meteors.

Martin Cropper
Kent Opera are going to the Vienna Festival at the beginning of next month; when they will give three performances of *Le Nozze di Figaro* at the Theater an der Wien. The dates are June 9, 11 and 12.

Opera in London
Invention of mythic force

The Mask of Orpheus Coliseum

Birtwistle's second opera has been a long time with the shadows. Murmurings of it were first heard more than 15 years ago, followed by the more tangible evidence of associated works and glimpses of the libretto. Parties from Covent Garden and from Glyndebourne were sent back to bring the thing into the light, as Fiona Maddocks chronicled on this page last week, but evidently both looked over their shoulders at the fateful moment, and it has been left to the English National Opera to reveal a work of immense power and fascination.

After such a wait, expectations have been running exceedingly high, and there must be many who have been grappling to form their own impressions of what the eventual opera would be like. It was a situation almost made for disappointment, and yet *The Mask of Orpheus* turns out to be both a richer and a more single, strong and dynamic experience than one had dared hope. I remarked here a couple of years ago that Birtwistle's earlier *Punch and Judy* was the one perfectly satisfactory reinvention of opera since Stravinsky. Now there is another.

It does not, however, show its purpose all at once. The rhythm of the opera is one of increasing tension as the wheels of circular events are swung into ever-faster motion. This makes for a relatively slow and diffuse first act, where what we see on stage seems partial and makeshift: there are things happening beyond, of which we hear amplified whisperings, and the whole impression is of dramatic and musical elements being weighed and assembled. Some of those elements are striking. There is a love duet of ice-cold eroticism where the partners chant on each other's names, and there is the noise of wood and drums. Later a "yawn aria" for Euridice is a vocal flower that quite avoids the waiting bathos. But it is only at the end of the act with the hysterical colouratura of the Oracle of the Dead and a quite



Philip Langridge: anxious lyricism used to great effect

extraordinary procession of deep wind chords as Orpheus remembers his future journey, that action and music are gripped as one. The second act offers musical repetitiveness to power a relatively straight unfolding of Orpheus's travel to the underworld and back, the generating symbol is that of a system of arches, each a station in the myth, and each presented in the same musical form of sung narrator and mimed enactment. The doubling of the main roles by singers and

things become more overwhelming still in the last act, where both music and action move in cycles of different repetition: the governing image is now that of tides, each one shifting the arrangement of details in multiple re-enactments of Orpheus's death. There are again many extraordinary details: the great electronic clang that tears shivering the auditorium; the urgent orchestral manoeuvres led by brass marching upwards from the bass, a fantastically strange soprano-tenor duet for Orpheus as oracle. But the mind is gripped throughout by a work that has hit the centre of its territory.

In the first half of this century it was possible for artists like Stravinsky, Eliot and Strauss to deal with myth on terms of familiarity. Birtwistle, on the other hand, shows us something alien, even barbaric, but terribly important. Or the comparison might be made with other times in operatic history when a new version of the Orpheus legend was called up to answer a new vision not only of opera but also of the nature of the self. Birtwistle's work is nothing less.

And it is admirably presented. Philip Langridge uses his anxious lyricism to great effect in the long central role, and Jean Rigby and Ethna Robinson are well matched as alternative, darkly-voiced Euridices; Marie Angel gives a startling performance as the Oracle of the Dead. The orchestral score, with all its dense brooding, ceremonies, alarms and ticking mechanisms, sounds magnificent under the direction of Elgar Howarth and Paul Daniel, though the wind need to be brought up to the level of the amplified percussion. Barry Anderson, who assisted Birtwistle in the composition of the very important and awesomely successful tape sections, is in charge of the electronics.

David Freeman produces, and Jocelyn Herbert designs, a staging that mightily activates the savagery of Greek culture with potent help from Mesopotamia, and the mime artists, led by Graham Walters as a highly sympathetic Orpheus Hero, dance as if from Attic vases. The world afterwards is different.

Paul Griffiths



The lady and the tramp, new-style: Nick Nolte in the "Boudou" role, and the dog apparently in need of its analyst, in *Down and Out in Beverly Hills*

Cinema
Hollywood's idea of farce

Down and Out in Beverly Hills (15)
Odeon Leicester Square

The Mystery of Alexina (15)
Everyman

Biggles (PG)
Plaza

Paul Mazursky claims to be "a very great fan" of Jean Renoir; but to remake Renoir's *Boudou sauvé des eaux* in the shape of *Down and Out in Beverly Hills* seems a funny way of showing it. Adapted from a play of 1919 by René Fauchais, *Boudou* was Renoir's comic celebration of the unspoiled pagan slob. In the original, *Boudou*, played by Michel Simon, is a Parisian tramp who whimsically essays suicide from the Pont des Arts. He is rescued by a bourgeois bookseller of liberal inclinations, who takes *Boudou* into his home in an effort to redeem him. Lustful, gluttonous, lazy and magnificently ungrateful, *Boudou* brings chaos to this polite household, insulting his benefactor's customers, seducing the maid, curing the sexual frustrations of the wife and using rare editions as spittoons.

Mazursky and his co-writer Leon Capetanos have translat-

ed the story to contemporary America. The Whitmans are just another ordinary Californian family. Husband (Richard Dreyfuss) is a successful manufacturer of wire coat-hangers, who exploits illegal immigrant labour, drives a Rolls and sleeps with the maid. Wife (Bette Midler) is a monstrous shrew with a guru, a health diet, an intermittent drink problem and gnawing sexual hunger. Their daughter is anorexic, their son is a transvestite, and even their dog has his own psychiatrist.

Nick Nolte plays the bum — a left-over Sicilian drop-out who tucks into their opulent little haven when he attempts suicide in the swimming pool. Inevitably, after the first shock, everyone (including the dog) falls in love with him, and the family's psychological problems are solved. The most significant departure from *Boudou* is the ending of *Beverly Hills*. *Boudou*, threatened with a bourgeois marriage, jumps back into the Seine, and is last seen disappearing into the countryside and freedom. Nick Nolte tries to make a getaway, but then turns back, lured by creature comforts. Of course there are more differences between the films than that. *Down and Out in Beverly Hills* does not go outside the conventions of the Hollywood farce of manners. The casting has some novelty: Dreyfuss and Midler are seen in interesting new lights as the monstrous middle-aged couple; and the veteran singer Little Richard turns out to be a promising comedian.

was a girl. The timid Adelaide, known as Alexina, only became aware of his difference from other girls when he took a job as a teacher in a girls' school and fell in love with his room-mate. The affair became a scandal, with more misery and notoriety to follow when in 1860 the Church recognized the error and renamed Adelaide Abel. Unable to cope with the attitudes of a hypocritically outraged society, the difficulty of adjusting to his new identity after a lifetime's training as a woman, and the disappointment of his love affair, Alexina-Abel committed suicide.

Feret compensates for the lack of means for large-scale period reconstruction with the care for detail and the grace and discretion with which he builds up the portrait of his strange, sad hero. Much is due to the inspired casting of the sweet-faced, small-voiced Philippe Vuilleman — not a professional actor, but well known as a cartoonist — as Alexina.

Just when British films seem to be doing so well, Biggles comes along to show the other side of things. It might for a start appear an odd decision to put Biggles on the screen at this juncture: how many of today's filmgoers remember Captain W.E. Johns's hero? Once committed, though, the flying ace might well have been made over into a sort of period James Bond. Instead there is a misguided and inept attempt to give the film an appeal for imagined mid-Atlantic teenage audiences. The central character is a boyish New York businessman of 1986 who keeps falling through a time-war and getting caught up in random adventures of Biggles and his pals on the Western Front, 1917.

The script is witless, the direction is showy and the performance of the twin heroes (Neil Dixon as Biggles and Alex Hyde-White) are weakly amiable. The principal consolation is a cadaverous Peter Cushing as Biggles's old C.O., Captain Raymond.

David Robinson

Opera in Wales
Wozzeck
New Theatre, Cardiff

This new production of Berg's *Wozzeck*, staged by the Roman director, Lavin Clulei for Welsh National Opera, begins starkly: a bloody, vomit-soaked floor and face-huge coils of wire hanging from the flies; a landscape floor-to-be peopled by madmen and zombies. But, as scenes after scene of ingeniously devised symbolism presses this soldier's tragedy to its chilling conclusion, it is clear that this is a nightmare of particularly brilliant devising. Clulei wisely puts context

before concepts. The steady drudgery and petty bullying of the army barracks is evoked first rows of anonymous soldiers scrubbing the floor; soul-destroying drills; degrading medical inspections. Then in Act II, as the tragic consequences of Marie's infidelity become apparent, Clulei begins to emphasize the other side of Büchner's message: a bourgeois crowd gathers to observe, voyeuristically but with callous unconcern, every turn of the screw in this working-class tragedy.

The fleshing-out of Berg's lean 15-scene structure is also maintained on different levels simultaneously. Characters frequently drift around scenes in which they have no part. The idiot, who so significantly "smells blood" at Act II's conclusion, for instance, has

been sniffing and shuffling around since the beginning — a neat way of expressing Wozzeck's own fantastic observation that "there's something following us down there". And, while *Wozzeck* is undergoing the doctor's sadistic experiments (with more than a hint of the horror movie about: the primitive surgical appliances assembled), Marie is already flirting with the Drum-Major.

Perhaps this multi-level activity, for all its hysterical excesses when evoking the dangerous edginess of the dance-hall scene, becomes too distracting at points where Berg's music supplies its own overwhelming psychological commentary. One thinks of *Wozzeck*'s dramatic Act II interview with the Doctor and the Captain, which should surely engage us fully. Here it was upstaged by Marie, dressing from the stockings up.

Moreover, although most of the notoriously problematical scene-changes were cleverly solved, the rattle of moving wire intruded badly into the D minor orchestral interlude, the opera's musical climax (and also, incidentally, the place where the conductor Richard Armstrong and his players crowned a magnificent achievement in the pit). Still, this did at least allow Clulei to set up his last, bloodstained *camp de théâtre*: a "final curtain" indeed.

The cast responded with varying degrees of success to the expressionist production style and the demands of Berg's vocal writing. Eiddwen Harry's Marie was an entirely credible creation — a slutish, sedate rag-doll who briefly regained pride in her sexuality when seduced by the Drum-Major. She also moved most easily from speech to singing, though her voice ideally needed a harder edge to cut through the orchestral tutus.

Richard Morrison

Theatre
Sporting with human folly

Every Man in His Humour
Swan, Stratford

The neglect of Ben Jonson may be a standing disgrace to the English stage; but whenever a management does venture into unknown Jonsonian territory it is only to stagger back in defeat and confirm the idea that most of the work of our second greatest playwright has dated beyond recovery.

Every Man in His Humour has all the characteristics that have kept Jonson off the modern stage. It is a learned piece, modelled on Roman comedy and following the "humour" system which presents character as a pre-selected bundle of personality traits: which in this case is represented by a menagerie of fools whose obsessions have shed the topicality they enjoyed in 1598.

At that date Jonson was 26, and with no trace of the cantankerous moralist, *Every Man* brought him immediate popular success. And the first thing to be claimed for John Caird's brilliant revival is that it fully projects the sense of a young man's play — revelling in creative energy and the assurance of giving the public a good time.

Famously, Jonson declared its aim was to "sport with human follies, not its crimes". This does not mean that he was ruling out violence; and

passion. Adultery, betrayals and the threat of death possessed the action, but only in the imagination of a group of characters who never do anything worse than wallowing each other with limp cudgels.

The play begins and ends with young Edward's scheme to outwit his father and marry the girl of his choice. Typically, Jonson pushes the love interest well off-centre and devotes most of the play to three periodically interlocking intrigues, involving a braggart captain (Bobadil), a jealous merchant (Kiteley), and the spying father — with the whole thing propelled on its merry way by Graham Walters as (Brainworm) who pops up in ever more impenetrable disguises.

In the absence of a direct plot-line, this is not easy to disentangle on the page. Caird's production reveals what one would have supposed from the play's history, that Jonson knew his business. Every strand of intrigue unwinds with pellucid clarity and so do those nodal points in the action where Jonson brings on the whole crowd to throw their weight about and get their lines crossed at the Windmill Tavern and the house of Cob, a harmless water-bearer, where Kiteley and his wife triumphantly collide, each thinking he has caught the other out at a place of assignation.

The Swan, well though it appeared in *Two Noble Kinsmen*, here proves itself a

matchlessly sensitive instrument for Elizabethan comedy. The depth of the stage lends itself to highly detailed simultaneous action, the galleries allow a sense of busy London life going on in the background, while the forestage permits the greatest intimacy and speed of direct address — with characters singling out individual cronies and shooting off nervous enquiries to the house in the midst of highly-charged dramatic business.

The master of this technique is Henry Goodman's Kiteley, an amiable husband given to vertical take-offs into jealous delirium, repeatedly switching between these extremes plus desperate appeals to the house within a single speech.

Another towering performance comes from Pete Postlethwaite, who converts Bobadil from a stereotyped Pistol roarer into a decayed, pathetically self-righteous pease never more harmless than when giving fencing lessons to the would-be fire-breathing Stephen (Paul Greenwood).

Mr Greenwood, steadily accumulating martial characteristics throughout the evening, gives the lie to the notion that Jonson's characters remain fixed. Philip Franks (as a poetic gull) and David Haig as the many-faced Brainworm are among others who lift this into a blissfully funny event.

Irving Wardle

Frederick Ashton's THE DREAM
New production with designs by David Walker
To Mendelssohn's celebrated score, Ashton's ballet captures the magic of Shakespeare's play.
with Les Patineurs/ Scènes de ballet June 6, 9, 12, 14, 27 at 7.30pm
Les Patineurs/ Return to the Strange Land June 26, 30, July 1 at 7.30pm
Giselle June 7, 24, 28, July 3 at 7.30pm June 23 at 8.00pm
Royal Opera House
01-249 1866/911
Access/Visa/Diners Club

PUBLIC NOTICE
As a result of strict exchange control regulations which for decades have been enforced by numerous countries throughout the world, the premier means of moving wealth without transferring these assets, was and is the acquisition and consequent disposal of fine.
PERSIAN CARPETS AND RUGS
Some of the owners through voluntary nominees have instructed us, to dispose of their collective pieces on a single basis to raise immediate cash flow, forming new client customers through Her Majesty's Bonded Warehouses.
PUBLIC AUCTION
Upon inspection of the merchandise we are delighted to find rare and unusual pieces depicting origins from World Renowned Weaving Areas of Persia • Turkey • Russia • China • Iraq • Afghanistan • Armenia • Romania • Pakistan and others.
Our experience leads us to believe that the value of such pieces collectively exceeds £4,000,000. Therefore, logic dictates that a series rather than one auction be held in London and possibly other major international cities for the liquidation of this merchandise.
The first auction and auction will be held at
Sunday 25th May 1986 at 3 p.m. promptly
Proceeding from noon to 3 p.m.
Terms: cash, cheque and all other credit cards with ID.
No buyers premium at this auction.
For those wishing to re-export their merchandise, packing, documentation and shipping facilities are available.
Entrées invited for our future auctions.
Auctioneers: Edward Kell & Associates, 144/146 New Bond Street, W1. Telephone 01-491 1572

RSC
Barbican Theatre
PREMIERE PRODUCTION
THE DANTON AFFAIR
by FRANK GEHRY
with PHILIP FRANKS, DAVID HAIG, PHILIP VUULEMAN, PHILIPPE VUULEMAN, PHILIPPE VUULEMAN
WHILE: real factions fight for supremacy during the second year of the French Republic, the personal duel between the two titans of the revolution — Danton and Robespierre — reaches its fatal climax.
CONTINUING IN REPERTOIRE:
MEPHISTO
THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR
THE PIT
THE DEAD MURDER
THE CANDIDIA
REAL DREAMS
PHILISTINES
BARBICAN 01-628 8795/638 8891



Avon and Somerset Police Authority members facing a barrage of bottles and bricks from their officers during a demonstration of new riot equipment.

Worst week of violence in Northern Ireland IRA mine attack kills 3 in 'bandit country'

By Richard Ford, Belfast

Two Royal Ulster Constabulary officers and a major in the British Army were killed yesterday in a Provisional IRA land mine attack on a joint army-police foot patrol in the heart of Northern Ireland's "bandit country". The three men took the force of the explosion which was detonated by terrorists hiding in nearby hills as the patrol clambered over a ditch one-and-a-half miles east of Cross Maglen in County Armagh.

Fermanagh injuring another soldier. The attacks near the border will increase pressure on Dr Garret FitzGerald's coalition government as one of the aims of the Anglo-Irish Agreement was to improve border security. Last night Mr James Molyneux, leader of the Official Unionists, said that the killings showed the deceit and hypocrisy of the agreement and that Dublin had failed to deliver more effective security co-operation.

until their next of kin have been informed. Members of the patrol were crossing the ditch when the terrorists launched their attack and boulders flew over 100 yards before crashing through the roofs of homes. Mrs Mary Traynor whose home was damaged in the explosion said: "It was the loudest explosion there has been since the troubles started." Because of the terrain and dangerous nature of the area for members of the security forces, much of their work is carried out using helicopters. The injured men were flown to Daisy Hill hospital Newry, County Down, where they were dead on arrival. Army helicopters ferried in extra troops and the scene of the explosion was sealed off for most of yesterday.

Fears for medical training

The General Medical Council said yesterday that university cuts and National Health Service constraints were threatening medical education to the point where recognition of some medical degrees could be a problem. (Our Social Services Correspondent writes). Professor Arthur Crisp, chairman of the University Grants Committee's education committee, said there was growing concern that medical training was being threatened. He said that for universities working to improve community medicine and general practice training "the 1970s were a time of standstill and the 1980s have been a period of remorseless cutbacks."

Chemical weapons talks

From Rodney Cowton, Brussels. Military staffs in Nato countries are discussing with the United States contingency plans that could lead to the storing of chemical weapons in their countries if war seemed imminent. Mr Caspar Weinberger, the US Defence Secretary, said he expected the preparation of the plans and the consultation with allies to "be completed very shortly". However, Mr George Younger, the British Defence Secretary, said he had no knowledge of any request from Washington for the positioning of chemical weapons in Britain during a period of crisis or war. He said it was possible contingency planning was going on, but nothing had been referred to him.

Update for missile radar base

The Government is to modernize its ballistic missile early warning system at Fylingdales, North Yorkshire, Mr John Stanley, Minister for the Armed Forces, announced last night. (Our Political Staff writes). He said the British and American governments would carry out the work, which would enhance the overall safety of Nato. "We are satisfied that the modernization of this system fully conforms with United States obligations under the anti-ballistic missile treaty,"

Militants determined to resist purge

By Peter Davenport. Labour Party leaders, who have finally begun to expel their Militant members from Liverpool, can have little doubt that prising Militant from its grip on political power in the city still remains a formidable task. The NEC may yet have to order the disbandment of constituency and ward organizations which have said they will refuse to recognize any expulsions.

The first test of the party's resolve to make its purge of Militant genuinely effective could come next Tuesday, when Councillor Tony Mulhearn, president of the disbanded District Labour Party and expelled by the NEC yesterday, is due to attend a meeting of the Garston constituency party. An indication of the continuing problems that Militant pose for Mr Kinnoch and the Labour leadership came yesterday in reactions in Liverpool to the first expulsions. Mr Mulhearn said that he intended to carry on as a councillor and party member and to appeal against the decision at Labour's October conference. Mr Derek Hatton, the deputy leader, who left the NEC hearing before his case could be called, said: "The whole thing is a disgrace. The trade union movement and the party in Liverpool will not accept this. As far as we are concerned, Tony Mulhearn will remain a member of the party."

Today's events

- Royal engagements: Princess Margaret opens the new Oncology Unit and CT Scanner Unit, Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, Norwich, 12.15.
- New exhibitions: Bath Festival: Contemporary Art Fair, Assembly Rooms, Bath, today until Monday 10.30 to 7 (until May 26).

cial by Carlo Curley, The Old Town Hall, Blagrove St, Reading, 7.30. Concert by the Poole and Parkstone Operatic Society, the Bournemouth Youth Orchestra with John Lawrence and Linda Murray, New Down School, Blandford, Dorset, 7.30. Concert by the Halle Orchestra; Prestos Guild Hall, 7.30. Concert by the Phoenix Wind Quintet; The Pavilion, Harbour St, Broadstairs, 7.45.

Food prices: English farm salmon is making its first appearance in the shops this week and compares very well in looks and quality with Scottish farmed salmon. It is retailing at about £4.40 a lb. British chicken sales are up by two per cent in a total market which shows a decline of one per cent on last week. Fresh chicken ranges from 63-89p, boneless breasts £2.19-£2.89 a lb and poussins £1.15 a lb.

Travel news

Rail: British Rail are running extra trains during the Spring Bank holiday. Passengers are advised to check details in advance at their local station and to reserve seats on popular InterCity routes between London, Scotland and the West Coast. Today: Normal weekday service supplemented by additional trains on the London, North-east, Scotland and the West Coast routes. Extra trains to South coast ports.

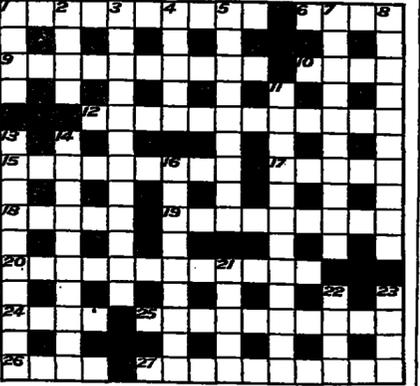
Weather forecast

The British Isles are covered with a SW flow between a depression near Iceland and high pressure over France. 6 am to midnight: London, SE England, East Angles, Central Ireland: Cloudy with rain in places at first, brighter and mainly dry by late morning; wind SW moderate; max temp 16C (61F).



MOON TODAY	High Tides
London Bridge	AM 1.45, HT 6.9, FT 12.9
Bournemouth	AM 1.09, HT 6.5, FT 12.3
Belfast	AM 1.09, HT 6.5, FT 12.3
Cardiff	AM 1.09, HT 6.5, FT 12.3
Dover	AM 1.09, HT 6.5, FT 12.3
Edinburgh	AM 1.09, HT 6.5, FT 12.3
Glasgow	AM 1.09, HT 6.5, FT 12.3
Harwich	AM 1.09, HT 6.5, FT 12.3
London	AM 1.09, HT 6.5, FT 12.3
Manchester	AM 1.09, HT 6.5, FT 12.3
Newcastle	AM 1.09, HT 6.5, FT 12.3
Nottingham	AM 1.09, HT 6.5, FT 12.3
Sheffield	AM 1.09, HT 6.5, FT 12.3
Southampton	AM 1.09, HT 6.5, FT 12.3
Stirling	AM 1.09, HT 6.5, FT 12.3
Swansea	AM 1.09, HT 6.5, FT 12.3
Tees	AM 1.09, HT 6.5, FT 12.3
Wolverhampton	AM 1.09, HT 6.5, FT 12.3
Wrexham	AM 1.09, HT 6.5, FT 12.3

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 17,053



- ACROSS: 1 Insect makes dog jump at first (10).
- 2 Raised common funds for auditor (4).
- 3 Deficiencies quite unlike those of Victoria (10).
- 4 Face perhaps familiar to witch (4).
- 5 Reason for class to put procedural question (5,2,5).
- 6 He surely pays simple interest (9).
- 7 Part in Twelfth Night played by musician (5).
- 8 From Irish hero I brought back epic work (5).
- 9 Fancy female worker to some extent (9).
- 10 MPs in form restrained by supporters (12).
- 11 Forecast that is so right? (4).
- 12 Be reluctant to take downward path to hell (10).
- 13 Aims which are identical for Europe and America (4).
- 14 Stop feathers flying? (6,4).
- DOWN: 1 Sort of cord worn round waist (4).
- 2 Cheat thinned at start of game (4).
- 3 Country's score (8,4).

Top Films

- The top box-office films in London: 1 (1) The Jewel of the Nile
- 2 (2) Witness
- 3 (3) A Room with a View
- 4 (4) Jagged Edge
- 5 (5) Out of Africa
- 6 (6) The Hitcher
- 7 (7) Hero - Unarmed and Dangerous
- 8 (8) Casper
- 9 (9) Absolute Beginners
- 10 (10) Clockwise

Top video rentals

- (1) Pals Rider
- (2) Witness
- (3) Invasion USA
- (4) A Nightmare on Elm Street
- (5) Lifesize
- (6) A View to a Kill
- (7) Desperately Seeking Susan
- (8) Cat's Eye
- (9) My Science Project

Anniversaries

Birth: Linnaeus (Carl von Linné), botanist, South Rashult, Sweden, 1707; William Hunter, obstetrician and medical writer, Long Calderwood, Lanarkshire, 1718; Franz Mesmer, physician, near Weil, Germany, 1734; Sir Charles Barry, Architect, London, 1795; Otto Lilienthal, aviation pioneer, Anklam, Germany, 1848. Deaths: Giovanni Savonarola, preacher and martyr, hanged and burned, Florence, 1498; John Wood (Wood of Bath), architect and town planner, Bath, 1754; Henrik Ibsen, Oslo, 1906; John D. Rockefeller, Ormond Beach, Florida, 1937.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Recess adjournment debates.

Lighting-up time

London 8.27 pm to 4.57 am. Bristol 8.26 pm to 4.57 am. Manchester 8.45 pm to 4.55 am. Penzance 8.42 pm to 4.55 am.

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: C, cloud; F, rain; S, sun. Belfast 11.52, 11.52, 11.52. Birmingham 11.52, 11.52, 11.52. Bristol 11.52, 11.52, 11.52. Cardiff 11.52, 11.52, 11.52. Edinburgh 11.52, 11.52, 11.52. Glasgow 11.52, 11.52, 11.52. Liverpool 11.52, 11.52, 11.52. London 11.52, 11.52, 11.52. Manchester 11.52, 11.52, 11.52. Newcastle 11.52, 11.52, 11.52. Nottingham 11.52, 11.52, 11.52. Oxford 11.52, 11.52, 11.52. Perth 11.52, 11.52, 11.52. Plymouth 11.52, 11.52, 11.52. Reading 11.52, 11.52, 11.52. Southampton 11.52, 11.52, 11.52. Swansea 11.52, 11.52, 11.52. Telford 11.52, 11.52, 11.52. Torquay 11.52, 11.52, 11.52. Wakefield 11.52, 11.52, 11.52. Wolverhampton 11.52, 11.52, 11.52. Worcester 11.52, 11.52, 11.52. York 11.52, 11.52, 11.52.

The pound

Country	Rate
Australia	1.52
Canada	1.25
Denmark	1.36
France	6.55
Germany	2.36
Italy	1.36
Japan	163.00
Netherlands	2.20
Spain	166.00
Sweden	8.46
Switzerland	2.00
USA	1.52

Around Britain

Region	Temp	Wind	Cloud
EAST COAST	12-14	SW	partly cloudy
SCOTLAND	10-12	W	partly cloudy
W. COAST	11-13	SW	partly cloudy
SOUTH COAST	13-15	SW	partly cloudy
IRELAND	10-12	W	partly cloudy

Market Summary

Stock market summary including FTSE 100, DAX, and other indices.

Large vertical advertisement on the right side of the page, featuring the name 'Hanson' and '800m sale by Hanson'. It includes various small text elements and graphics, possibly related to a real estate or construction sale.

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1316.3 (+3.8)

FT-SE 100
1598.8 (+6.9)

USM (Datstream)
120.83 (-0.22)

THE POUND

US Dollar
1.4960 (-0.016)

W German mark
3.4056 (+0.0075)

Trade-weighted
76.0 (-0.4)

Water chief hits at 'rush' and planning for sell-off

By Jeremy Warner, Business Correspondent

A water industry chief yesterday criticized the Government for attempting to rush through poorly thought-out plans for privatizing the industry in England and Wales.

Mr Len Hill, chairman of the Water Authorities Association, said the 10 state-owned water authorities were not being given enough time to prepare for privatization.

He also questioned the adequacy of the planned formula for controlling prices in the industry after it has been returned to the private sector and the wisdom of floating the authorities off on the stock market one at a time over a number of years.

Mr Hill's comments were disputed by the Thames Water Authority, which is keen on an early stock market flotation. Mr Roy Watts, the chairman, said he would op-

pose any water industry initiative which prejudiced the chances of Thames being sold off at the earliest opportunity.

The Government is hoping to raise up to £5 billion from privatizations among the authorities before the next general election.

Enabling legislation is to be introduced in the next session of Parliament, allowing at least one of the authorities to be sold to stock market investors by the end of next year.

Mr Hill said that other industries which had undergone privatization had been given two to three years to work out the details while the water industry had only 18 months to organize the sale of 10 separate companies.

He also criticized Government plans for vesting the land drainage activities of the authorities in a separate, publicly controlled body after privatization.

Such a proposal would interfere with the present integrated structure of the industry in which the authorities were responsible for all aspects of the water environment, Mr Hill said.

Government plans to phase the flotations over several years were a potential area of "real trouble" he said, since customers in one area of the country would then be subjected to differing structures of water charges and regulation.

The Water Authorities Association would be urging ministers to privatize all 10 authorities together, Mr Hill said, although he acknowledged that this would present major difficulties in selling the industry to investors.

The association also attacked the Government's plans for limiting price increases to a yet unspecified amount below the rate of inflation.

The formula failed to take account of the differing circumstances and needs of the 10 authorities or the possibility that certain authorities might face major expenditure on improvements to the water environment as a result of EEC initiatives.

Mr Hill said that the Welsh, South West, Wessex and Southern water authorities would all be hit by the need for substantial capital expenditure on cleaning up resort bathing beaches.

Further moves by the EEC to clamp down on the dumping of sewage sludge at sea would have a big impact on the Thames Water Authority, he said.

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Money market sets its heart on base rate cut

The money market got the bit between its teeth yesterday after a week of uncertainty and vacillation. National Westminster's decision to cut its base lending rate by half a point to 10 per cent as early as yesterday afternoon was bold, but from yesterday morning onwards the market was clearly gunning for a base rate cut before the long weekend.

The reasons for a cut revolve around the strength of sterling. Despite a series of gloomy economic statistics during the week the pound strengthened against most European currencies, rising to DM3.4100. Against the dollar, sterling did not look so impressive, dropping more than two cents during the week - but this was more to do with the United States currency's recovery than with any weakness in sterling. UK interest rates stood out, as excessively high, relative to those of other industrialized countries.

Two consecutive months of worse-than-expected money supply figures militated against a cut in interest rates. Yesterday's move, however, would seem to be yet another indication that one can attach too much importance to the money supply, and that the exchange rate is the main determinant of monetary policy.

There had also been a feeling in the markets that Britain needed another nudge from overseas, but there was little indication that West Germany, Japan or even the US were about to reduce their interest rates.

The result was that early yesterday morning bill yields dropped below 10 per cent and the crucial three-month interbank rate sank to about 10 1/2 per cent, down from about 10 3/4 per cent on Wednesday. It is a fair guess that the Bank of England, whose intervention in the markets on Wednesday gave no clear indication of base rate cut, was nudged from Whitehall into giving its blessing to NatWest.

After a week in which the news on unemployment has been ghastly and a range of statistics gave clear indications of a slow-down in the economy, the chance to round off with a piece of good news on base rates must have seemed irresistible. The Chancellor's enthusiasm for a cut in interest rates has been plain since the Tokyo summit, and the National Institute for Economic and Social Research yesterday rubbed salt in his wounds by complaining that monetary policy was dragging Britain behind the rest of the industrialised world.

\$30m sale by Hanson

Hanson Trust has announced another disposal from SCM, the American company bought by its American arm, Hanson Industries, for \$320 million (£217 million).

It has agreed to sell the speciality chemicals manufacturer, SylvaChem, to International Paper Corporation for \$30 million cash. SylvaChem made operating profits of about \$3 million on sales of \$45.3 million in its last financial year.

Hanson announced on Wednesday the \$160 million sale of Allied Papers' paper operations at Jackson, Alabama.

Barker shares in demand

The offer for sale of shares in Charles Barker Group has been oversubscribed 11 times. Employees made preferential applications for 686,600 shares and applications up to 6,000 will be met in full. Those in excess will receive 6,850.

With public applications for between 200 and 2,500 there is a weighted ballot for 200. Those applying for 3,000 and above will receive approximately 7.4 per cent.

£1m ahead

Ferguson Industrial Holdings, the packaging company, lifted profits from £6.5 million to £7.5 million before tax in the year to February 28. Turnover rose from £142 million to £151 million and the total dividend is up from 7.2p to 7.9p. *Tempus*, page 19.

89% accept

The rights issue by Low & Bonar, the packaging and electrical products group, has been taken up for 89.8 per cent of the 5.85 million shares offered.

No inquiry

Greg, Middleton and Co, broker for Bestwood, the investment holding company, says that the Takeover Panel has confirmed that it has not undertaken any formal inquiry into dealings by Bestwood in shares of the Country Gentlemen's Association, nor has it any plans to do so.

Share success

Alumasc Group's share offer was oversubscribed. The basis of allocation will be announced today.

BHP stake

An announcement by Equiticorp Tasman that it was a substantial buyer of BHP shares and options ended market speculation on who accounted for most of Wednesday's turnover of 32.8 million BHP shares.

£4m purchases

DRG has spent a further £4 million to acquire two more businesses in the latest of the series of acquisitions since its rights issue last September. They are Laboratoires Steril Packing Systems based east of Paris and Murfax, a wholesale company of stationers in Luton, Beds.

Investors' cash may be kept 'in trust'

By Michael Prest Financial Correspondent

Most investment agents will have to keep clients' money in separate trust accounts if sweeping new rules proposed yesterday by the Securities and Investment Board come into force.

The rules are particularly aimed at brokers in futures, options and similar instruments whose business is entirely unregulated at present. But stockbrokers, merchant banks, and many insurance brokers, among others, will also be affected.

The new rules would bring London into line with American practice and remedy one of the most notorious deficiencies in the treatment of private client business in Britain. But business and professional investors may agree with their agents not to have their funds segregated.

In its third set of draft rules, entitled *Draft Money Regulations*, the SIB sets out two basic objectives. The first is that "money held by a person authorized to carry on investment business (a 'firm') on behalf of others ('clients') is held by the firm on trust for clients".

The second aim is that "such money is held in a separate client account maintained at an approved bank". It is emphasized that while the firm will be the trustee under existing trust law, the separate account will protect the client against all creditors of the firm, including the Crown and the Inland Revenue.

An important part of the new provisions affecting brokers in futures and related instruments is the introduction of a concept called "equity balance".

This includes in the money due to a client and liable to be held in a separate account unrealized profits or losses and margin requirements in near cash instruments such as Treasury bills, as well as cash.

The SIB intends to publish a practice note specifying that private investors be paid reasonable interest on money deposited with the broker or agent. But the board is reluctant to lay down rates of interest or to extend the trust principle to interest due.

Dixons would sell Comet to Granada

By Alison Eadie

Dixons Group, which is bidding £1.5 million for Woolworth Holdings, announced yesterday that it would sell Woolworth's out-of-town electrical retail chain Comet to Granada Group for a basic price of £125 million, if it wins the takeover battle.

The Woolworth chief executive, Mr Geoffrey Muckaby, immediately responded that the proposed sale price was "ludicrously low". He said: "They are selling someone else's company about which they do not have all the required information."

Woolworth bought Comet two years ago for £177 million. Since then it has had £20 million of cash stripped out of it and has sold off some peripheral businesses.

Its trading profits dropped 8 per cent to £13.7 million last year. The basic Comet chain has, however, been expanded by Woolworth in the last two years and a 25 per cent expansion is planned this year.

If the deal goes through, Granada will pay £70 million in cash, funded by a vendor placing, and up to £75 million in non-interest bearing loan notes. The notes are redeemable by Granada at £55 million in the first two years. In addition Dixons has said it will take out a dividend of £25 million.



Alex Bernstein: exciting opportunity for Granada

Sir Philip Harris, chairman of Harris Queensway, who was thwarted from buying Comet two years ago said he had not put in an offer this time because he did not know what he would be getting as he was not buying from the owner.

Mr Alex Bernstein, chairman of Granada, said the acquisition represented an exciting opportunity to become the leading out-of-town electrical retailer.

Woolworth shares shot 35p higher to 855p putting them 182p ahead of Dixons bid.

Dixons has extended its bid until June 5 after receiving 0.15 per cent acceptances by the first closing date yesterday.

Plessey profits up £6m

By Clare Dobie

Plessey yesterday announced a big jump in profits for the fourth quarter of last year. Profits before tax rose from £42.5 million to £58.2 million for the three months to March 28, taking the total for the year from £164 million to £170.2 million.

Plessey is waiting for the Monopolies Commission to report on GEC's bid, launched last December. Sir John Clark, the chairman, said Plessey had completed its evidence to the commission last week. The inquiry is due to be completed in mid July.

Sir John said he did not know how high GEC would pitch a renewed bid if it were allowed to return. Referring to Lord Westwood, chief executive of GEC, he said: "I don't know what he is prepared to pay for a new suit, let alone Plessey."

Telecommunications profits fell from £74.6 million to £70.7 million for the year despite a late improvement. System X completed 225 exchanges compared to only 16 last year and Stromberg-Carlson, the American subsidiary, returned to profit in the last quarter of the year.

Group turnover rose from £1.42 billion to £1.46 billion and the final dividend is 2.96p against 2.57p last year.

The order book fell from £1.61 billion to £1.36 billion, with declines both in telecommunications and electronics. Sir James Blythe, the managing director, said the shortfall would make up in the autumn. *Tempus*, page 19

Wardle Storeys lifts bid for RFD by £4m

By Richard Lander

The prospect of a carve-up of the RFD Group, the industrial holding company, between the rival suitors, Wardle Storeys and Scapa Group, emerged yesterday when Wardle increased its bid by more than £4 million to £29.6 million to top the £26.6 million Scapa offer.

Wardle, which makes plastic sheeting, made it clear that its interest centred on RFD's safety and survival division and the larger part of its defence activities.

Scapa, which supplies technical textiles including specialized textiles to industry, has said that, if it won the takeover battle, it would retain RFD's textile businesses but would look to dispose of some of the group's other operations. Mr Brian Taylor, managing director of Wardle, said yesterday that he had contacted Scapa to say that, if he won control, he would be willing to sell the textile division "to Scapa or a Scapa-like business." Both bidders have also mentioned management buyouts as suitable solutions for other parts of RFD they did not want to retain.

At RFD, whose products range from computer printer ribbons to air launchers, the chairman, Mr Gordon Macpherson, said that he wanted to talk to both companies. Despite an earlier recommendation to accept the Scapa bid, he said he was now advising shareholders to take no action.

RFD shares advanced 14p to 215p after Wardle's new 16-for-25 share offer, which values RFD at 214p or 21 times the group's estimated 1985-86 earnings.

The underwritten cash alternative has been substantially increased from 137p to 205p. Scapa is offering 196p a share, with a 195p cash alternative.

Thomson to buy US publisher

International Thomson Organisation is to pay about \$200 million (£134 million) for Cordura, a US business information company that publishes "crash guides" service and repair cost estimates for sale to the insurance and automobile repair industries.

ITO said the purchase of Cordura, which made last year profits of \$9.3 million taxed prior, would increase ITO's involvement in reference books professionals need to carry out their work.

In Britain, ITO has a majority stake in Glass's Guide, the used-car price guide and owns Palgrave, which is similar to Cordura.

CBI to take hard line on pay

By Edward Townsend Industrial Correspondent

A new hard line on pay, with increases linked strictly to improvement in productivity and company profits, is to be the hallmark of Confederation of British Industry policy in the coming year.

Mr David Nickson, chairman of Scottish & Newcastle Breweries, who became the CBI president today, said: "Pay is directly linked to the biggest problem we face in this country which is unemployment. We cannot pay ourselves more than we earn."

He added: "I would like to see nobody paying any more than they can justify by their performance and productivity - that is what our competitors are doing."

Mr Nickson, who is aged 56, takes over from Sir James Clesminson and will be leading the CBI - which claims to represent 250,000 companies employing half the nation's workforce - during the run up to the next general election.

On the pay issue he said that Britain's overseas com-



David Nickson: "a very blunt message"

panies had "nil internal inflation".

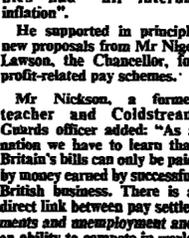
He supported in principle new proposals from Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, for profit-related pay schemes.

Mr Nickson, a former teacher and Coldstream Guards officer added: "As a nation we have to learn that Britain's bills can only be paid by money earned by successful British business. There is a direct link between pay settlements and unemployment and an ability to compete in world markets. These are the messages I will continue to try to put across in 1986."

As chairman of a company based in Scotland and the North of England he hoped to bring a new perspective to the problem of divisions between the North and South of the country.

"In terms of real unemployment and standards of living, there is a concentration of relative prosperity in the South-east and a concentration of deprivation in the Northern cities."

Headlines about single figure pay deals were often misleading and some compa-



Sir James Clesminson: handing over the reins

negotiate two and three-year pay deals.

"We have every incentive to get away from the annual negotiations we have now."

Mr Nickson said, however, that in the analysis of current pay settlements, some of which are twice the rate of inflation, industries' productivity improvements were being understated.

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York 1795.83 (+20.48)

Dow Jones 2819 (+46)

Tokyo 15917.38 (+109.19)

Hong Kong 1820.98 (+25.04)

Amsterdam Gen 289.5 (+15.2)

Sydney AO 1174.8 (+2.3)

Frankfurt 1991.5 (+53.8)

Commerzbank 681.26 (+7.61)

General Paris GAO 391.4 (-13.8)

Zurich 520.50 (+1.1)

CURRENCIES

London New York £: \$1.4960

DM: £3.4056

SwF: £2.8937

FF: £0.8450

Yen: £162.23

Index: 76.0

ECU: £0.632002

SDR: £0.766849

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base: 10 1/2%

3-month Treasury Bills: 6 1/2%

3-month Treasury Bills: 5.19-5.18%

30-year bonds: 9 1/2%

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:

Boechmann 303p (+17p)

Courtauld 281p (+4p)

GKN 338p (+6p)

Hewlett Kiddleley 577p (+12p)

Amstrad 355p (+15p)

Wedgehead 355p (+7p)

Avon Rubber 318p (+18p)

Bass 795p (+7p)

Unilever 278p (+7p)

SW Barford 1580p (+40p)

Traco 378p (+10p)

United News 388p (+15p)

GUS 'A' 1055p (+10p)

Dunhill 458p (+15p)

Woolworth 855p (+35p)

RFD Group 215p (+14p)

Telephone Rentals 240p (+20p)

Hanson 179p (+4p)

Holmes & Marchant 255p (+30p)

Denon 315p (+40p)

PS Ratcliffe 315p (+20p)

Pacer Systems 210p (+20p)

FALLS:

Boots 265p (-3p)

Microfilm 150p (-40p)

Benson Clark 211p (-22p)

Wardle Storeys 335p (-8p)

Appledora 220p (-15p)

The Beauford Group p.l.c.

RECORD TURNOVER AND PROFITS

Results in brief

Year ended 31st December	1985	1984
Turnover	9,690	8,387
Profit before Tax	818	710
Dividends	5.25p	4.5p
Earnings per share	15.1p	11.9p

Salient points from circulated statement by the Chairman Mr. Geoffrey Crawford.

- Record in both turnover and profits both of which increased by 15%
- Recommended final dividend of 3.5p giving total dividend for the year of 5.25p (1984 - 4.5p)
- Proposed capitalisation issue of one new ordinary share for every ordinary share held.

Copies of the Report and Accounts are available from: The Secretary, The Beauford Group p.l.c., Beauford House, Serpentine Road, Cleekeheaton, West Yorkshire BD19 3HY.

WALL STREET

New York (Reuters) - Wall Street shares jumped early yesterday in response to a rally in the bond market, traders said. The Dow Jones industrial average was up 8.06 points to 1,783.23, with the early gain about equal to Wednesday night's loss. Sears led the active issues up 4 1/4. Viacom dropped one point to 60 1/4. It bought back 3.5 million shares from Mr Carl Icahn, ending a takeover threat. The transportation average was up 1.47 points to 781.77, while the steel average fell to 151.62 and stocks gained 2.05 points to 691.92. The Standard and Poor's 100 index stood at 225.69, up 0.64 points. The composite index was up 0.75 points to 236.20.

Table of stock prices for various companies including AMR, ASA, Allied Signal, and others, with columns for bid, offer, and change.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES table showing market rates and forward rates for various currencies like New York, London, and others.

DOLLAR SPOT RATES table showing exchange rates for various countries including Ireland, Singapore, Australia, and others.

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE table listing prices for various commodities like sugar, cocoa, and oil.

MEAT AND LIVESTOCK table showing prices for various types of meat and livestock.

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

Table showing money market rates and gold prices, including Euro money deposits and gold prices.

OTHER STERLING RATES

Table showing other sterling rates for various currencies and regions.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table listing various investment trusts and their performance metrics.

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Table listing various financial trusts and their performance metrics.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Table showing London financial futures prices for various instruments like sterling and gold.

THE PRICES AND UNIT TRUST QUOTATIONS ON THIS PAGE REFER TO WEDNESDAY'S TRADING.

Table showing unit trust quotations for various funds.

UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Table providing information for the Unit Trust Information Service.

BASE LENDING RATES

Table showing base lending rates for various banks and institutions.

Large table of stock prices and market data, including various company names and their current prices.

Table of Canadian prices for various stocks and commodities.

Table of unit trust quotations for various investment funds.

Table of financial trusts and their performance.

Table of base lending rates for various banks.

Handwritten notes and signatures at the bottom of the page, including 'John G. 1150'.

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Base rate cut lifts shares

Stock markets had already been anticipating another cut in interest rates before National Westminster Bank announced a 10 per cent base rate just before 4.30 pm yesterday and share prices moved further ahead after the news.

Why Plessey's poetry does not quite scan

Sir John Clark, the chairman of Plessey, talks poetry. To listen to him is to forget that his company is under threat of a renewed bid from GEC.

contracts. These should be filled in the autumn. Part of the shortfall reflects a shift by British Telecom from annual to quarterly ordering.

The Brighton bomb of October 1984 all but destroyed its Grand Hotel. A serious fire at the Lord Cromwell Hotel in Connecticut, America, put half the bedrooms out of commission while overheads and staff costs remained.

Ferguson

Shareholders in Ferguson Industrial Holdings can breathe a sigh of relief. A year ago their board was considering floating off the printing and packaging side and using the proceeds to buy more builders' merchants.

At the operating level it is very much business as usual. For the half year to March 28 Greenall Whitley has managed a creditable 23 per cent improvement in its interim operating profits to £18.2 million.

Greenall Whitley

Greenall Whitley's strategy of broadening the base of its business away from beer and from the North-west of England is now looking for acquisitions to join the existing printing business.

Sweden's answer to the demise of shipbuilding

The running down of Britain's shipbuilding industry is proving dramatic. But, set against the pace at which Swedish shipbuilding capacity has been scrapped, it looks like a comparatively gentle decline.

RECENT ISSUES

Table listing recent issues with columns for company name, price, and change. Includes Jarvis Potter (105p), Jure Hotel (115p), and others.

EQUITIES

Table listing equity prices and changes. Includes Andor (100p), Ashby (135p), and others.

RIGHTS ISSUES

Table listing rights issues with columns for company name, price, and change. Includes Ashby (100p), Barclay (100p), and others.

Worcester (100p)

Table listing Worcester (100p) and other equity prices.

Sweden's answer to the demise of shipbuilding

From David Smith, Stockholm. The running down of Britain's shipbuilding industry is proving dramatic. But, set against the pace at which Swedish shipbuilding capacity has been scrapped, it looks like a comparatively gentle decline.

Bumper sales for unit trusts

The first quarter this year was a boom period for the unit trust industry with net sales, (gross sales less redemptions of units) up by 122.5 per cent on the same period last year according to figures from the Unit Trust Association.

Government urged to co-operate with Opec

Britain should modify its opposition to requests from the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries for co-operation to force oil prices back up, the president of the managerial trade union in the coal industry said yesterday.

Road hauliers elect chief

Road Haulage Association: Mr G Samal has been elected chairman, succeeding Mr A C W Neely. Mr R S Bowles and Mr R D Heaton have been made vice-chairmen.



IML Air Couriers: Mr Paul Block is now product development executive within the international marketing division. Dowty Mecor: Mr Robert Wilks has joined as managing director.

COMPANY NEWS

BENLOX HOLDINGS: Total payment for 1985 1.1p (1.1p). Turnover £15.94 million (£10.04 million). Pretax profit £265,784 (£358,371). Earnings per share, basic, 1.3p (2.0p) and fully diluted, 1.3p (1.9p). The board views the future with great confidence.

Swedish shipbuilding

The closure of the Kockums Yard, at a cost of around 3,000 jobs, is particularly hard for the workforce to take. The yard was reckoned to be the most productive in Europe and one of the most technically competitive in the world.

Buoyant half year

Trading in our pubs and restaurants in the first half year was buoyant in spite of beer sales by volume being unchanged from the same period last year. Sales of beer in the latter part of 1985 suffered from the after effects of the Runcorn dispute but since January 1986 we have gained market share.

INTERIM RESULTS

Table showing interim results for 28 weeks to 12.4.86, 28 weeks to 13.4.85, and 52 weeks to 30.9.85. Includes Turnover, Trading Profit, and Earnings per ordinary share.

INTERIM RESULTS (continued)

Table showing interim results for 28 weeks to 12.4.86, 28 weeks to 13.4.85, and 52 weeks to 30.9.85. Includes Turnover, Trading Profit, and Earnings per ordinary share.

Success from natural growth Bass Public Limited Company 30 Portland Place, London W1N 3DF

BASE LENDING RATES table with columns for bank name and rate. Includes ABN, Adam & Company, BCCI, etc.

YOUR OWN BUSINESS

By mail order, naturally



Selling clothes in natural fibres through the post freed Jackie Staples from fickle fashion buyers

By Peta Levi
Jackie Staples says that because people lead increasingly frenetic lives, everyone is a potential mail order customer. "If you can offer what people want at a cheaper price, then everyone - the aristocracy, politicians, you and me - will buy through mail order."

For 10 years, 42-year-old Jackie ran Jake, a successful fashion business, by designing, contracting out manufacture and selling women's clothes to the major stores in Britain, Paris and New York. "I was tired of the constant dressing-up in order to sell to fickle buyers and being at the mercy of ever-changing fashion editors."

Having designed mail order women's clothes in the mid-1970s for The Sunday Times, she knew that many women would want made clothes in natural fibres, but don't have much money.

So in 1983, when she was 39, separated from her husband and wanting to spend more time at home with a baby daughter, she decided to turn Jake into a mail-order business.

For a year she ran the business from her South London drawing room while refurbishing an office in Kennington Park Road. To keep the company going she courageously spent £10,000 on a Sunday Times colour magazine advertisement. Jackie recalls, "I was staggered

by the response - one mailbot and I had 7,000 orders, worth £175,000. It was a success, but it was a mess - we had no computer. It took me and three staff seven weeks to send out the orders."

After that experience she took three weeks off to write her requirements for a computer program and spent £14,000 on computer hardware and the specially written software.

The business now employs seven people directly and 60 indirectly in manufacturing the clothes. Wanting to

ring to ask where they could buy Jake clothes. So, last February, Jackie spent £37,000 launching her first mail-order catalogue. The 16 per cent response from her 40,000 customers - £106,000 of orders to date - has given her considerable confidence.

Jake's turnover in the last 10 months was £530,000, a 54 per cent increase over the previous year. Jackie has financed the mail order development with £100,000 of share capital and runs the business tightly, personally making the first prototype of all her designs, sometimes re-making them as many as 14 times in order to work out the most economical way of manufacturing the garments.

Her main problem has been the inefficiency of the Post Office. She spends £25,000 annually on postage, but mail was getting lost, was delivered at 2pm instead of 9.30am and was collected at widely variable times. Jackie says, "I have made myself unpopular at the local post office, writing and badgering managers, even threatening to close my business and to campaign in Parliament to de-nationalize the Post Office."

Jackie says she wants to contain the business within limits which she can control personally. "Part of its success is its exclusivity. I don't want to cut corners and I am prepared to think long."

create a fresh attitude to mail order, she has tried to eliminate things which irritate her about other mail-order services, such as the length of time taken to send refunds. She did not buy a mailing list, but created her own, which is private.

By the end of 1985 Jake was again profitable. Jackie had continued to direct advertising in up-market papers and magazines. Her computer informed her that although six women had bought all nine Jake designs, many women had bought only two. Customers were not reading all the advertisements and were

Mr Friday
National Westminster Small Business Digest of 3,500 firms revealed that 23 per cent claim to be members of a general small business representative body and 49 per cent claim to have joined some other professional or trade body.

Newcastle Youth Enterprise Centre, set up on the Tyne less than 18 months ago to help young people start up in business, has just helped its 600th client. He was 21-year-old Michael Rowe, who wants to start a furniture-making business this year after completing his degree course in design craftsmanship at Newcastle Polytechnic. The centre is offering advice and helping him draw up a business plan which will be monitored.

The centre's manager, Chris Smith, says they have exceeded the expected number of business start-ups by a big margin. One hundred and twenty businesses are now in existence thanks to advice from centre officials.

Contact: Newcastle Youth Enterprise Centre, 25 Low Friar Street, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 5UE; phone (0632) 618008.

IN BRIEF
Small businesses are apprehensive about trading levels in the first three months of 1986, according to the latest Quarterly Survey by the Small Business Research Trust.

More than 30 per cent of the 1,326 respondents expected sales in the first quarter to be down on the previous quarter and 22 per cent said turnover would be the same. This meant that the balance (the proportion of 'up' responses minus the 'down' responses) fell over the quarter from 26 per cent to 10 per cent. The balance for employment remained the same at 5 per cent and more than half said they expected staffing levels to remain the same.

Finance and interest rates remained the most important problem cited by companies, followed by the total tax burden. Almost half admitted to some problems with finance, with a higher percentage of younger firms admitting difficulties. A special survey conducted with the

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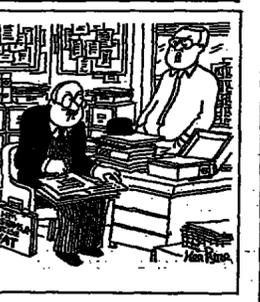
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telephone answering, fax to let. We are a North of England manufacturer, long established, who has set up a prestigious London sales office in Berkshire, Essex, 01 telephone number and adjacent to the underground station. We would welcome enquiries from either respectable organisations with a view to sharing opportunities. Initial enquiries to Mrs. C. Dixon - Tel: (0282) 692621 Ext 27 (office hours).

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In thriving location established high class ladies hairdressers. Turnover approx £80,000. Present rent £550 pa. New rent next year. Owner retiring. £25,000 for good business. Includes 1000 sq ft. Reply to BOX D24.

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The scientists who count in a crisis

Birmingham's Faculty of Engineering is situated in a most suitable place — in the heart of the once-great manufacturing area of the West Midlands. Today the West Midlands is in dramatic decline, but the faculty sees one of its main tasks as being to help in the regeneration of the area through the close contacts it has developed with industry.



In direct government funding by increased earnings from private industry grants and contracts.

It is confident that in the new climate of opinion, in which greater respect is now paid to engineering, there is much it can do. "A new shop-window for engineering in the West Midlands" was how Professor Raymond Smallman, Dean, described it at the new faculty's inauguration ceremony in March. He talked of responding to the rapid changes in the industrial world and of "joining with our partners in the revitalization of the economy of the region".

Professor Smallman says that only a few years ago the engineering departments received between 80 and 90 per cent of their revenue from the Treasury. Today's figure is about 60 per cent. This reflects the fact that whereas in 1980-81 the total of new contracts and grants was £1.5 million, it has risen to more than £5 million in the current year, 1985-86.

Research results are made known

This means that instead of remaining in academic isolation, members of the faculty are encouraged to develop contacts with the world of industry. The aim is twofold: to try to ensure that the results of their research are known to industrialists who will be able to make practical use of it — something that has too often not been the case in Britain in the past — and to attract money to support research.

rapid transit systems of Hong Kong, Singapore, Sydney and even Seoul have drawn on the expertise of the Department of Electronic and Electrical Engineering.

The Department of Metallurgy and Materials has a contract from the European Commission for an important part in developing high-performance permanent magnets, a European response to American and Japanese efforts.

Generally speaking, money for research contracts and grants comes from three sources — industry, research councils and foundations, and government departments (or the EEC). In all these cases it has to be competed for, and the need to do this has given a new edge to faculty activities.

No less important is the attention that has to be paid to the training of undergraduates and postgraduate students. The innovations that have followed the establishment of a separate Engineering Faculty have included the creation of new four-year courses for the degrees of Bachelor of Engineering (BEng) and Master of Engineering (MEng). These give particular emphasis to design and production in an attempt to meet industry's needs.

There is also an awareness that today's engineer, or tomorrow's, needs a broadly based approach, and should not be too narrowly confined within one specialized area. The faculty, therefore, aims to bridge the divides between traditional subject areas and create multi-disciplinary engineering skills.

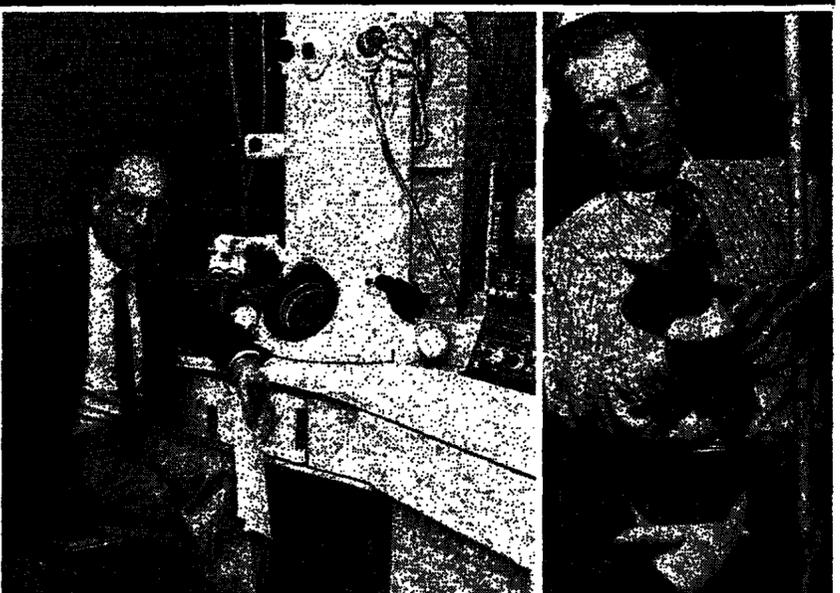
The belief is that these, too, are a response to the needs of industry.

Underlying these innovations is a sense that, in spite of its previous contributions, engineering has for too long been undervalued in Britain by comparison with other countries; but that, given the need for industrial recovery, that is now changing.

Professor Smallman points out that whereas, in Birmingham and elsewhere, there has been a drop in the overall number of applicants for university places, there has been an increase of about 10 per cent in those wanting to study engineering, because of the job opportunities offered.

Industry needs are changing

At the same time the needs of British industry today, he believes, are quite different from those of the 1950s, when factories were making low varieties of product in high volumes for markets which they dominated. Today that domination has gone, and British factories have to be adaptable, capable of producing a great variety of technologically sophisticated products in small volumes at low cost and with high quality.



Professor Raymond Smallman, left, with a micro-analytic microscope, and Dr J.R. West using tidal water equipment

Hand in hand with industry

An estimated 40 to 50 per cent of the £5 million of new research contracts expected to be placed with Birmingham's Faculty of Engineering this year will be directly funded by industry.

The proportion of vital new money from companies is growing every year as cash from more traditional sources, the research councils and government agencies, becomes harder to acquire. The faculty has had to tread the hard road of financial reality, but its entrepreneurial instincts have been applied to offer a wealth of academic expertise and research facilities in return for a share of industry's cash.

Research contracts across a whole range of diverse activities, involving such giants as GEC, Hawker Siddeley and Austin Rover, and the needs of Britain's water authorities and London Underground,

now go hand in hand with successful teaching company schemes and university-based consultancies to draw the faculty closer to the companies its engineers will ultimately serve.

The Department of Electronic and Electrical Engineering, for example, has undertaken collaborative work with more than 60 industrial and commercial concerns and one group —

power, electronic and traction systems (PETS) — has important links with GEC Transportation and Traction, Hawker Siddeley Rail and London Underground in key areas concerned with railway and transit projects in Britain and abroad.

About 90 per cent of its research income comes directly from industry. Professor Brian Mellitt, the head of the department, has no doubts about the value of such co-operation: "If a university does not involve itself in new research and projects it stultifies."

Professor Mellitt's own PETS group is involved in a consultancy service to industry, providing expert knowledge on the design of power supply systems for railways and other related subjects. Consultancy services, through a central university

organization, and the hiring out of expensive specialist equipment to industrial users are a growing source of additional income.

Industrialists have been heartened by the increasing co-operation between business and university. Brian McCann, who runs GEC Transportation Projects and Traction, said: "We have developed with Birmingham University a course to produce high-quality engineers for the transportation business and we also put in research."

"It means the students do practical laboratory work which is relevant to us and it keeps the university in touch with the real world. It is of mutual benefit. In many ways they are an extension of us." Another crucial, and growing, area is the teaching company scheme. Of 190 such

Continued on page 23

How General Electric is helping them become Britain's most gifted graduates

The combination of academia and industry is vital for the continuing success of British industry. Research projects at universities have always been a valuable source of new ideas. But industry is needed to help turn them into commercial reality. GE Automation Application Centre at Birmingham University in Industry Year 1986, provides another great opportunity for increased

collaboration between academia and industry — a collaboration that is so necessary in the age of increasing automation and information technology. As somebody else once said during difficult times: "Give us the tools and we will finish the job". Together GE and Birmingham University are capable of developing the answers.



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ENGINEERING AT
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FOCUS

Softening the blow from birds in flight

METALLURGY

The Department of Metallurgy and Materials deals with what is central to any engineering undertaking — the materials used. Traditionally these used to be primarily metals; hence the first half of the title. But increasingly, attention is being given to other materials, such as ceramics and plastics, which have properties that can be superior to those of metals, and that has widened the field of research considerably.

The subjects of study include metals and their alloys, ceramics, polymers, and composite materials which can incorporate the properties of more than one of them.

At Birmingham, work is being carried out, for instance, on titanium-based alloys which are being used for the construction of engines for jet aircraft. One aim is to determine the factors which condition dimensional change, or "creep"; another to improve the toughness of the engine blades so that they can resist the shock caused when a bird is suddenly sucked into the works.

Another subject of study is the damage caused by neutrons to the zirconium alloys used in nuclear reactors. The object is to make the zirconium alloy more resistant to

irradiation, and one approach is to use electrons to simulate the neutron damage.

The department is headed by Professor Raymond Smallman, who is also Dean of the faculty. It is a long-standing department, and was one of the first to be created at the Mason Science College, the forerunner of the University of Birmingham, when it was founded in 1875. Over the years it has had close contacts with industry, and that tradition continues today, with more than 50 industrial companies sponsoring research by the department.

At the centre of its research effort, and basic to any attempt to develop improved materials, is the study of the microstructure of materials and of the relationship between that structure and the properties of the materials. This requires the use of sophisticated electron beam instruments — among them

A closer look at microstructures

Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM). Conventional Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM), High Voltage Electron Microscopy (HVEM) and Auger Electron Spectroscopy.

The latest acquisition by the department in this range of



You need a keen eye to get these things right: Students practise behind masks in the workshop and experiment in a digital systems laboratory



Robots take the risks

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Professor Bob Davies, the acting head of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, speaks confidently of the future: "The demand for our graduates has never been better. Industries which had to slim down in the last eight years are having to recruit again in a big way."

The demands of modern industry, however, are changing and the department is producing engineers with flexible, computer-based skills.

Professor Davies said: "Industry wants engineers who can sit on the board, talk to the shop floor, deal intelligently with accounts and marketing people and travel abroad. It wants versatility."

The department caters for about 250 undergraduates and about 50 post-graduates.

The largest undergraduate course is mechanical engineering, followed by mechanical engineering and manufacture and management, a prestige course for "high-flyers" which has a foreign language or business studies as an option.

The third is mechanical engineering and economics, a double honours course which also has a language-business option.

About half the students are sponsored by industry and they spend a year with their company before joining the department.

Postgraduate courses cover thermodynamics (which attracts overseas students), machine tool and manufacturing technology and the important new venture of flexible manufacturing systems.

Research is an important growth area and much of it is

Research income is currently booming

linked with motor industry customers, including Austin Rover and Jaguar.

The main thrust is the dynamic testing of vehicle structures, to assess ride characteristics and produce more comfortable cars. Whole vehicle bodies are vibrated for several days to identify stress points and assess component life.

Professor Davies said there are proposals to set up a centre for automotive engineering to pool all the expertise and resources of the various departments and conduct research for a motor industry, eager for new knowledge.

Researchers have also developed their own robot which is on the market for a variety of tasks requiring precision movements.

The robotics team is now expanding and is looking towards new developments for robots working in environments that are hazardous for human workers.

"Flexible manufacturing systems", using automation and computers to enable industry to adapt production to a wide range of components or products, is also a key area of future research.

Professor Davies said: "Both on the under-graduate teaching side and the research side, computer techniques and computer methods are becoming dominant."

There is now a plan for an inter-departmental centre for computer integrated manufacture.

The healthy state of the department is demonstrated by the number of grants and contracts it receives — about £1.25 million worth this year, much of it from the Science and Engineering Research Council.

Professor Davies said: "Things are picking up. Industry is sponsoring more students, and we have an increasing amount of money coming in directly from industry."

"We are having to go out and earn our keep, but the response has been marvellous. It puts us in touch with industry and as far as research income is concerned, we are booming. I am very optimistic for the future."

The way to measure ocean waves 100 miles into the deep

The Department of Electronic and Electrical Engineering has an international reputation, in particular for the work it has done on rapid transit systems as far afield as Hong Kong, Singapore and Sydney. Nearer home, it is taking part in planning for the renewal of the Central line in London.

It is also much involved in the sea, both above and below the surface. A research group headed by Professor E.D.R. Shearman has received a grant of £153,000 from the Wolfson Foundation for a project to measure the strength and direction of waves 100 miles and more out to sea; and another group has developed advanced sonar equipment for deep sea work.

Professor Brian Mellitt, the head of the department, takes special pride in the close contacts it has developed with industry, and the value of the contracts awarded by industry, research institutes and the Government for research at Birmingham — currently of the order of £1,770,000. He himself heads the research group dealing with power electronics and traction systems, and is a man of phenomenal energy who spends much of his time in aeroplanes between Birmingham and various points round the world

where he advises on rapid transit systems.

Much of the department's work in this area, he says, is on control of the motors, with the aim of ensuring that control is as smooth as possible as the train goes through the processes of acceleration and braking.

It has also developed a whole system simulator which can provide a model of the running of a complete two-road rapid transit system.

Research for specially designed sea rescue equipment is done in a large tank of water

Starting from the geographical description of the railway, the traction characteristics, signalling lay-out and operating requirements, the computer programme gives information about such points as energy consumption for various traction options, regulation of the DC supply equipment and behaviour of the signalling systems.

It helps in decisions on where to put sub-stations, how to lay out signalling, and how to minimize the input energy needed.

The department has worked

closely with both GEC and Hawker Siddeley on rapid transit systems. Apart from its work with London Transport, it has sold its programme to Singapore, where a rapid transit system is now being built, and has provided design studies for the Seoul system, for the Tuen Mun system, on Hong Kong island, for Pusan, also in South Korea, and for the Tangara system in Sydney.

The department's work on remote sensing of waves has international relevance. The main object, Professor

kilometres from the coast. The problem is to establish a clear pattern showing how the waves are moving and how high they are. Much progress has been made, and more is expected when a second sensor is set up in north Devon in co-operation with Neptune Radar, which will examine the same area of sea from a different direction.

The sonar research group is another that is well established, and its success is reflected in the funding it receives both from industry and the Ministry of Defence — particularly interested in advances in sonar equipment. Research is carried out into both active sonar, when a short pulse of sound is transmitted into the water in order to measure the range of the target, and passive sonar, in which an array of sensors, called hydrophones, listens to the noises produced by the target.

One piece of equipment developed in Birmingham — where research is carried out in a large tank of water — was specially designed for deep sea rescue work, and has been bought in the United States and Japan. It can be of value to navies and companies involved in maintaining oil rigs.

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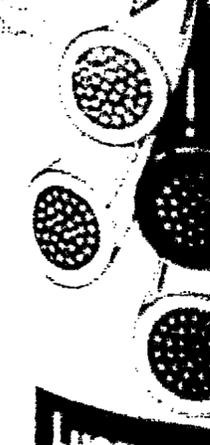
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From irrigation ditches to cracked concrete

CIVIL ENGINEERING

Current research in the Department of Civil Engineering ranges widely, from the best way to get irrigation water to crops in developing countries to detecting water into the causes of cracking in concrete structures - such as elevated sections of motorways.

Professor Michael Hamlin, the head of the department, said a hydrology specialist, said civil engineering was the most multi-disciplinary of the engineering professions. He said: "My current interest is in the proper scheduling of irrigation water, which requires a knowledge of how much water is needed by crops. People would be surprised that that is something engineers do."

The department has produced a systems model designed to allocate irrigation water for crops during shortages in semi-arid areas. It has already been applied to a rice smallholding in Sri Lanka.

It is water engineering for which the department is probably best known. Its hydro-

logy group has developed computer models to predict the movement of water and pollutants - resulting from tides, winds and jet flows, and which have been deployed in Deep Bay, Hong Kong and to predict temperature and nitrogen levels in Poole Harbour, Dorset.

It is also funded by a number of water authorities to investigate the development of ground water resources, the problems of flooding, drought and irrigation.

The work on flooding includes the use of radar as a warning system to determine how much rain is to be expected at ground level. Research is also under way on the causes of shrinkage, cracking and acid attack on concrete structures, with particular reference to the water-retaining structures, and into the general design of concrete bridges where work is sponsored by the Transport and Road Research Laboratory.

Other sponsors include Lloyd's Register, which is interested in "plate" structures in large tankers, and the Royal Aircraft Establishment, whose concern is thin-walled

structures in aircraft. The department attracts about £300,000 a year in research grants, largely from research councils and water authorities.

The department has 26 academic and 18 research staff. At any one time there are about 165 undergraduates taking either three-year Bachelor of Engineering or four-year Master of Engineering courses. There is a third-year science or practice option for the BEng degree. Structures, hydraulics, foundation and highway engineering, soil mechanics, traffic engineering and surveying are all included in the comprehensive range of subjects involved.

The four-year course provides a broad civil engineering education, building on a hard core of advanced theory to include research and design, computing, economics and management skills.

The department also runs one-year MSc courses in water resources technology, foundation engineering, construction management and a six-month post-experience course in water resources technology in developing countries, which this year has 21 students.



Just testing: batch cultivation of yeast in a 450 litre fermenter

The research team that helps to feed the world

CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

The Department of Chemical Engineering is one of Britain's largest and best known. It has a wide range of research activities, and support from many of industry's big names, including BP, Courtauld's, ICI, Shell and Unilever, and the government and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization.

Its function is not to invent chemical processes, which is the field of the chemist, but to develop efficient methods for carrying out chemical processes. This can apply to the composting of agricultural wastes, biochemical engineering, or the extraction of much needed metals from the complex minerals in which they are found.

Much of the work is bound to seem esoteric, such as the study of mixing under the direction of Professor Alvin Nienow. But mixing is used in many

industries, if only to ensure that oxygen is widely dispersed in a liquid, and the object is to discover the right kind of agitator, the right speed for it, the right size and temperature, and how much air is needed. The department has received a research grant, for instance, connected with the process engineering of seeds. The seeds are brought to germination by being kept in a solution for seven days, and during that time need to have enough oxygen. The object is to establish the best way of stirring them so that they have the oxygen - and are not bruised.

Professor John Bridgwater, head of the department, picks out the direct smelting process for complex sulphides, which was developed in the Chemical Engineering Department. The process can be applied to sulphides of lead, zinc and copper as well as copper and nickel sulphide minerals, in order to extract the metals. It may even be possible to treat tin-bearing minerals and deep-sea manganese nodules.

He also points to research into a method of recovering retained heat from slag. The heat is normally lost when the slag heaped up, or granulated in water, and if the energy could be recovered there would be a saving in energy consumption. Another project is concerned with developing a method by which coal can be fluidized and burnt as it is mined, without having to have the shale removed. The National Coal Board is showing interest in this.

The composting of agricultural wastes attracts worldwide interest, and in collaboration with the Medak Agricultural Centre in India, the department has written an instruction manual on composting in tropical agriculture, which has been distributed to aid agencies and to all the agricultural teaching institutions in the Commonwealth. It is now being enlarged for the FAO, which needs it for increasing food production.

The Department of Chemical Engineering has itself been involved in the production of a processor, known as

One aim is to develop a valuable new process for using cereal straw

ARMix, in collaboration with the agricultural engineering firm of ARM Ltd. The machine has been tested on pig slurry, sewage sludge and celery/leek wastes, which it mixes with straw to provide the proper carbon-to-nitrogen ratio, as well as porosity, and then places in large heaps for composting. The process has proved valuable as a method of using cereal straw rather than having to burn it, and as a way of reducing the smell and waste pollution.

Finally, there is biochemical engineering research, for which the department has received more than £700,000 in new contracts in recent years. In the area of cell growth and genetic engineering it is conducting research into the strength of microbial cells, and methods of growing such micro-organisms so that the cell walls will be easier to disrupt. It is also investigating cheap ways of producing monoclonal antibodies, and methods of producing fibres of immobilized cells.

Partners with industry

Continued from page 21
schemes in the country, 14, the largest of any university, are within the faculty. They are worth an estimated one million pounds a year.

The teaching companies are funded one third each by the Department of Trade and Industry, the Science and Engineering Research Council (SERC) and the participating company.

Companies and academic departments put together a programme of work, typically for four graduates over three years. They are paid the equivalent of an industrial salary and work for about 90 per cent of the time within the company, where they are joined for up to two days a week by academic staff who also gain valuable industrial experience.

Professor Brian Haley, the head of engineering produc-

tion, which has seven such schemes, said: "The intention is to raise the level of industrial performance, train able graduates for careers in industry and give academic staff the opportunity to be involved in industry. None of my graduates can be any good unless they have detailed exposure to the industrial scene."

In one of the teaching company schemes, the Department of Engineering Production has joined with National Standard Company of Kidderminster, the only UK-based manufacturer of bead wire to the tyre industry. The partnership, worth £115,000, will involve the development of new production planning, control and material handling systems.

Plans are well advanced within the faculty to strengthen its links with the automotive industry, through research into engine and vehi-

cles, steering columns and accident and safety statistics. Five of the seven departments are involved in a scheme to create a Centre for Automotive Engineering, pooling their expertise for such companies as Austin Rover and Ford.

Jaguar is also to fund a chair in automotive engineering - another successful spin-off from industrial links with the car industry, which are now worth hundreds of thousands of pounds.

Researchers in mechanical engineering, for example, are funded by Austin Rover and SERC to create a new system to automate the design and manufacture of forging tools while the faculty's renowned accident research unit is funded to the tune of nearly £300,000 by the Transport and Road Research Laboratory, BL Technology and Ford on a crash injury study.

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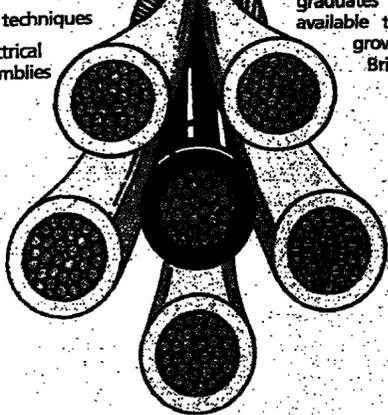
- production techniques
- CAD of electrical wiring assemblies

- computer links with Rists' customers
- advanced quality control methods for cable manufacture
- the use of computers in component design analysis

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- * Chemical Engineering
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- * Civil Engineering
- * Computer Science and Electronic Engineering
- * Electronic and Communications Engineering
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- * Electronic and Electrical Engineering
- * Electronic and Manufacturing Engineering
- * Engineering Production
- * Engineering Production and Economics
- * Mechanical Engineering
- * Mechanical Engineering and Economics
- * Mechanical Engineering, Manufacture and Management
- * Mechanical and Materials Engineering
- * Metallurgy
- * Materials Science and Technology
- * Materials Engineering

Postgraduate Education

The Faculty offers taught Masters' courses leading to the degree of M.Sc. (Eng.) and degrees by research leading to M.Phil (Eng.) and Ph.D. Taught courses currently on offer include:-

- * Biochemical Engineering
- * Construction Management
- * Engineering Production and Management
- * Manufacturing Management and Technology
- * Flexible Manufacturing systems
- * Foundations Engineering
- * Highway and Traffic Engineering
- * Machine Tool Technology
- * Metallurgical Processes and Management
- * Operational Research
- * Process Biotechnology
- * Thermodynamics
- * Traffic Engineering
- * Transportation and Traffic Planning
- * Water Resources Technology

Details of the above courses and programmes can be obtained from Assistant Registrar (Engineering), University of Birmingham 021-472 1301 X3216 BIRMINGHAM, PO BOX 363, B15 2TT.

How science gets a grip

TRANSPORT

There is a common link between the Hammersmith Flyover in London, a toll road in Illinois, the Silverstone Grand Prix circuit and three military airfields in Sweden. All are laid with "Delugrip", a high-skid resistant surface developed at the postgraduate Department of Transportation and Highway Engineering in collaboration with researchers from Dunlop.

That development, involving high-friction dense asphalt, resulted from research into the interaction between tyres and road surfaces.

The department was also involved in the invention of a new tyre polymer which improved fuel economy and enhanced the wet grip capability of tyres. The development of the polymer was carried out with researchers from both Dunlop and Shell and won a Royal Society Esso Energy Award.

The polymer and Delugrip are quoted by Dr Geoffrey Lees, head of the department, to demonstrate how its research produces positive and practical results. Departmental work, however, goes far wider. It runs four postgraduate courses, which this year have attracted more than 60 students. Nearly 70 per cent of them are from overseas. The courses are highway and traffic engineering, transportation and traffic planning,

and traffic engineering and highway engineering for developing countries.

There are also 12 full-time and five part-time research students on PhD courses.

Transportation students can be involved in the study of pavement design, traffic management, transport safety, route selection, soils technology or transport economics.

The department has its own highly regarded accident research unit which investigates traffic safety, including the crash-worthiness of vehicles, seat belts, collapsible steering wheels and the biomechanics of injuries. The unit is sponsored by the Transport and Road Research Laboratory, BL and Ford to the tune of more than £100,000 a year.

Research is also conducted within the department into air travel, fares, operating costs and the effects of currency fluctuations on airlines.

Dr Lees joined the university in 1960 and his particular interest is in highway construction materials. He said: "Highway authorities and all the big consultants have had students here. I should not think there is a major consultant in this country who does not have one of our postgraduates at his senior staff."

"The study of transportation ranges widely from the route of a road, its construction, the impact on land use, the problems of traffic management in urban areas and the economics of various forms of transport."



Technology on the march: Professor Brian Mellitt, left, with bank of computers, and Neil Wood, modifying a car for use by disabled people



The University of Birmingham campus is spread over 400 acres on the south-east edge of Edgbaston, one of the most pleasant suburbs of Britain's second city and about two miles from the city centre.

Shops and banks are on campus, together with a large library and an impressive sports centre which has a swimming pool, an athletics track, a gymnasium and racquet courts for the times when it is necessary for physical effort to replace cerebral punishment.

A full, happy life on the campus

A place in university accommodation is guaranteed to all new undergraduates who firmly accept a place by early May. The students' union, known at the university as the Guild of Undergraduates, is active across a whole range of affairs and there is a university choir and orchestra.

Birmingham as a city has attracted a less than favourable reputation over the

years, but those expecting to find dark satanic mills and chimneys belching grime and smoke are several decades too late. Those in the know insist that decent pubs are hard to find, but campus drinkers say that a student who cannot find a reasonable watering hole should not be at university.

Night life in the city centre is variable. One student said: "Eating places are either poor

and cheap, or expensive, with few in between. Night-clubs are numerous but are generally bad and expensive - if you can gain entry as a student. The desire for students to leave the campus, however, is not strong, and with so much going on there is little need."

The city boasts its own well-known symphony orchestra and repertory theatre, while for those willing to travel, the

Royal Shakespeare Company is only 20 miles away at Stratford-upon-Avon.

Edgbaston Cricket Club is close to the campus for those keen on the first-class game, and Birmingham City, Aston Villa, West Bromwich Albion, Walsall and Wolverhampton Wanderers Football Clubs within the conurbation offer a wide range of success and failure.

Birmingham has had a rough ride during the past decade. It was once known as the city of a thousand trades, but its industries were hit hard by the recession and unemployment throughout the West Midlands is high. However, it has a reputation for resilience and entrepreneurial effort.

Contributions to this article were made by Richard Bramley, a first-year research student, Ralph Pasma, a second-year undergraduate, and Andie Woodfield, a member of the research staff

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In search of optimum performance

ENGINEERING PRODUCTION

The Department of Engineering Production is concerned, not with inventing new products, but with making the systems by which things are produced more efficient. It is a wide-ranging brief, and means that the department is a very versatile one which interests itself in anything from the best way to produce a newspaper or a beer to the optimum lay-out of a factory, bank or airport.

Its work on work design and ergonomics includes a study of the physical work capacity of pregnant women, including documentation of their dimensions with a view to designing a workplace which will be best suited to them; and research into the safe limits for weights which have to be lifted by someone who is seated.

The head of the department is Professor Brian Haley, who appears used to having to explain its operations to the uninitiated. He lays particular emphasis on the "teaching companies" in which the department is involved, bringing together people from industry and the university; and on an agreement with General Electric, the large American corporation, to set up an Automation-Applications

Centre on the Birmingham campus.

The centre possesses a robot and other pieces of advanced automation equipment provided by General Electric. Its aim is to develop new methods of control of automatic processes, by sharing the expertise that the department and General Electric both have. One specific objective is to try out the possible different lay-outs of, say, a factory or an airport in order to provide for a smooth flow of activity without bottlenecks.

Teaching companies are operated by other departments at

Industry and the Science and Engineering Research Council.

The main teaching companies which the Department of Engineering Production has set up are with Fordham, which make bathrooms and kitchens; Marathon-Alcad for the development of nickel cadmium storage batteries; RISTS for improving information and production planning; Universal Grinding Wheels for the improvement of production control scheduling; National Standards, the wire manufacturers; Inco for market evaluation, produc-

tion and quality assurance; and Jeavons for the building of a new miniature gas meter.

One of the projects which has attracted most attention to the department is the modification of cars for the use of disabled drivers. A collaborative effort between the department's Low Cost Automation Unit and Motability, a unit set up by the Department of Health and Social Security, it began with an Austin Metro, and the intention is to move on to a Ford Fiesta.

The basic objective is to develop an electronic control system, easily fitted on to a standard car, by which a disabled person can operate the brakes and accelerator. In

the prototype this was done by joystick mounted on the steering column, but other input devices are possible.

Another area which has been investigated by the department's ergonomics group is the injuries which can be caused by constant repetition of the same muscular movement - a hazard for, for instance, chicken pluckers. The condition is called tenosynovitis, and the group, working in collaboration with other departments of the university, has been awarded a contract from the Health and Safety Executive to investigate cause, prevention and treatment.

This same group is well known for its work on back injuries in industry, and the recommendations it has made for avoiding them.

Among the teaching company schemes in operation within the faculty are: Courtlands plc £69,000; Delta Draw Metals (Ewatts Ltd) £141,900; Fordham Plastics £245,000; Hydrovane Compressors £135,900; Inco Alloy Products £176,000; Jaguar Cars and Land-Rover £248,000; Life Science Laboratories £222,600; Marathon Alcad £210,000; National Standard Company £115,767; Riste Ltd £267,000; Universal Grinding Wheels £180,000; Jeavons £175,000.

Congratulations to Birmingham University on its new Engineering Faculty

Esso have had long associations with Birmingham University through the many graduates who have made their careers with the company.

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Weekly Dividend table with columns: MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI, SAT, SUN.

BRITISH FUNDS table with columns: No., High, Low, Price, Change, % P/E.

SHORTS (Under Five Years) table with columns: No., High, Low, Price, Change, % P/E.

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DO YOU CARE? Our children are in danger? Battered children...

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WEDDING BELL To Dorothy...

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"HENLEY" "REGATTA" Dining Lounge with balcony...

THE ROYAL STAR & GARTER HOME...

THE ROYAL STAR & GARTER HOME...

We can't care for the victims of cancer unless you do.

Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund

WORLD INVOCATION DAY You are invited to use the Great Invocation today (and every day).

THE GREAT INVOCATION From the point of Light within the Mind of God...

From the Centre where the will of God is known. Let purpose which the masters know and serve.

From the centre which we call the race of men. Let the Plan of Love and Light work out.

Let Light and Love and Power restore the Plan on Earth.

World Goodwill 3 Whitehall Court London, SW1A 2EP

WANTED

OWNER of 4 year old black Frise dog seeks reliable care...

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WIRELESS TICKETS All days except...

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BENEFITS OF RITZLEDGE, wood carving & French polishing...

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"HENLEY" "REGATTA" Dining Lounge with balcony...

RESISTA CARPETS

SPECIAL OFFERS Wholesale Carpets, Tiles, design...

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ROYAL DONALDSON Tidy Jean...

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Let the Plan of Love and Light work out.

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YACHTS, PLANES & SPORTING

DUTTON BARNES 100 ft. boat, by...

SHORT LETS

SERVICES APARTMENTS in Kensington & Holland Park...

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FEMALE WANTED to share house...

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From the point of Light within the Mind of God...

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CHESTERTONS MAIRIEMAN SQUARE, SW2...

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Fabulous 3 bedroom flat in Kensington...

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FEMALE WANTED to share house...

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THE GREAT INVOCATION

From the point of Light within the Mind of God...

SWIMMING POOLS

Buy a Swimming Pool The SPATA logo is your assurance of quality...

WHY WAIT FOR SUMMER?

ENJOY SWIMMING ANYTIME INSIDE A COVARED HOME...

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Manufacturers of high quality in-ground free pools...

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FULHAM SW2, 2 bed flat in Regent Park...

RENTALS

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RENTALS

ATTRACTIVE newly dec 3 bed flat in Regent Park...

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IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI...

SELF-CATERING SPAIN

NEAR JAVEA on the beautiful coast of Valencia...

SPECIAL INTEREST

"SPEAK FRENCH in a friendly French home...

CORNWALL & DEVON

DARTMOUTH Devon, self-catering and bed & breakfast...

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SCOTLAND

ARRENDORRE Estate available, 1000 sq. ft....

SOMERSET & AVON

BATH FESTIVAL, accommodation, Central Somerset...

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Championship - he won the title in 1978, 1980, and 1981...

FOOTBALL

Halesowen head for promotion Non-league football by Paul Newman...

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New rule takes its toll Minor Counties cricket by Michael Berry...

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CRICKET: FULL DAY IN THE FIELD BETTER FOR THE INDIANS THAN THE SPECTATORS

Only Benson manages to produce something positive

By Ivo Tennant
CANTERBURY: Kent have scored 378 for six against the Indians...

for some of the players but not for the spectators. Even the start of play today has been changed for the tourists' benefit...

Warwickshire's opening batsmen are having a thin time of it just now, and luck deserted them again yesterday...



Ukaid cut: Tavaré hits out and makes contact with substitute Indian fielder, Kiran More (Photo: Chris Cole)

Botham shows a noble touch

By Alan Gibson
TAUNTON: Somerset have scored 348 all out against Gloucestershire...

Johnson gets off to a flying start

By John Hemmesy
Patricia Johnson mounted an impressive defence of her title yesterday on the first day of the match-play stage of the English women's amateur championship...

Clinton holds firm in a Surrey bustle

By Richard Streeton
HOVE: Sussex, with eight first innings wickets in hand, are 227 runs behind Surrey...

Daniel off to a flying start

By Peter Marson
Bowling from the pavilion end, Wayne Daniel was at his best, Wayne Daniel was at his best, Wayne Daniel was at his best...

Budd still posing problems

England's athletics officials will have a fine view of whether Zola Budd is selected for this summer's Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh...

Drivers are looking for action

Formula One racing returns to the majestic Spa-Francorchamps circuit in Belgium this weekend, but the drivers' thoughts will be on a decares collage rather than the picturesque scenery...

Pethers puts Harrow in the driving seat

Schools Cricket by George Chesterton
Put in to bat on a wicket surprisingly after a tactical rain on Wednesday, Harrow made a slow start against Winchester...

Warwickshire v Northants

Warwickshire First Innings
G A Gooch & Skebblott 11
B H Hards & Duggan 10

Worcesters v Lancs

Worcesters First Innings
G D Hoad & Rhodes 15
A J Jones & Brown 13

Middx v Glamorgan

Glamorgan First Innings
J A Hughes & Thomas 7
A J Jones & Brown 7

Camb Univ v Hants

Hants First Innings
R A Smith & Davidson 58
C Smith & Davidson 58

FOR THE RECORD

BADMINTON
NORWICH: Open of International First Innings
15-15:12 N Vase (GB) vs Andy (Ind) 15-12

Big guns closing ranks to quell the plastic revolution

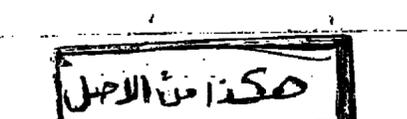
Injuries sustained from playing on artificial pitches will be discussed at the Football League AGM today amid latest equine research, widespread ignorance and determined salesmanship by companies proclaiming that synthetic grass represents the realistic future for British sport...

Rogers bows out

Steve Rogers, aged 31, who made 20 appearances for Australia at centres, including two as captain, has announced his retirement from Rugby League...

ENTERTAINMENTS

CINEMAS
LAMBETH CINEMA 379 3014
1.00 0991 St Martin's Lane
WCC (Lancaster) 11.00 2.00



SPORT

England take no chances with Robson

From Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent, Colorado Springs

The name of Gary Bailey has become the 22nd and last to be written down on the list of England's official World Cup party...

the ceiling. Earlier, during a visit to the Garden of the Gods, a sandstone cathedral carved by nature nearby and once regarded as sacred by the Indians, he had said a prayer for his captain.

Butcher frozen

The Football Association have frozen possible disciplinary action against Terry Butcher, allowing the England and Ipswich centre half to continue his World Cup preparations without the fear of suspension.

Butcher, who had a cartilage removed a month ago, had to wait until a morning inspection to check whether the knee, which had been tested rigorously on Wednesday...

England's manager admitted: "I have thought about a replacement for him, but he is too valuable to us. I will not risk him in the game against Canada on Saturday and he is not as fit as I would like, but I am basing my hopes on the fact that he will play in our opening tie against Portugal."

1970 tournament in Mexico Bobby Moore was the victim of a fabricated case in Bogota involving a stolen bracelet. Before the 1982 event in Spain, Kevin Keegan was injured and his contribution was reduced to the closing minutes of the last game.

It is becoming depressingly and alarmingly clear that he is unlikely to play a complete role in England's programme in the finals. Bobby Robson said: "Neither of us can tell whether he will break down when he comes back. Nor can anybody else, although he himself is confident. All he needs is luck at the end of a miserable season. Let's hope he gets it."

Hodge, who has performed so far here only in the practice game against the Air Force, will gain his third cap alongside Hoddle and Wilkins in midfield. Stevens will come in for Anderson at right back in a defence that will probably be otherwise unchanged, with Butcher, Fenwick and Sanson carrying out the collective duty of protecting Shilton.

Carter favourite to take over

Phil Carter is set to take over the Football League presidency after mulling over the reforms which have brought first division clubs more money and more power.

League's 92 clubs under one umbrella. Carter, aged 58, emerged as the spokesman for the top clubs during last season's conflict, and his popularity was confirmed when he topped the poll in the elections for the new management committee.

Carter was well beaten when he challenged Dunnett two years ago, but his stature has grown with the role he played in bringing about the changes which eventually averted the threat of a Super League.

Under the Board's loosely framed terms, however, the South Africans may, technically, not have breached a single rule - except the payment of a daily allowance on (by South Africa's own argument) a non-international tour.

He was ready to join the rebels in breaking away if their plans for reform were not agreed, but always insisted that he would rather keep the

and tomorrow's main debating point will be artificial pitches. Leicester City want synthetic surfaces banned from the first and second divisions from July 1988 but need a two-thirds majority.

Each of the three bodies is committing £500,000 a year over the next five years. Geoff Brown, the LTA president, said: "We believe that the Indoor Tennis Initiative will create the necessary stimulus to bring about a dramatic improvement in facilities."

Paris (AP) - Ivan Lendl and Martina Navratilova are the No. 1 seeds for the singles events at the French Open championships which begin on Monday.

Business (biz' nes) [A.-S. bisigness (BUSY, NESS)], n. serious occupation, work; professional affairs; buying and selling; man of business: One engaged in mercantile transactions; one skilled in business; business-like, a. Suitable for or befitting business; business suit, n. (Am.) A lounge suit.

MOSS BROS FOR FULL LIST OF BRANCHES RING 01-210 1567



On your knees: Michel Platini, of France, is brought down to earth in this close encounter with a Guatemala defender in a World Cup practice match in Mexico City. Undeterred, the French went on to win 8-1.

RUGBY UNION

S Africans state their case

With the threat of expulsion from rugby's world arena looming nearer, South Africa has claimed that its award of caps for the four-match series against the unauthorised New Zealand tourists does not violate the International Rugby Board's rules - nor is it unprecedented.

Dr Danie Craven, chairman of the South African Rugby Board, maintains that each country has the right to award caps even when playing teams representing some of the other seven IRB members.

Under the Board's loosely framed terms, however, the South Africans may, technically, not have breached a single rule - except the payment of a daily allowance on (by South Africa's own argument) a non-international tour.

Brady is out

Liam Brady has pulled out of the Republic of Ireland's two-match tour to Iceland and Czechoslovakia after injuring his knee while playing for Inter Milan against A.C. Roma in the Italian Cup on Wednesday.

There is a glut of allegations that payments and rewards for the touring New Zealanders, and even for the South Africans, are in a different league to the modest, officially sanctioned allowances for international tours.

A solution favoured by several IRB members is a clause allowing expulsion not only for breaching a specific IRB regulation, but also for bringing the game into disrepute. If the recommendation is accepted at the IRB's session in October, the ground for South Africa's expulsion will effectively have been laid.

TENNIS

£20m for indoor facilities

A £20 million scheme to improve Britain's indoor tennis facilities was announced yesterday by the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA), the Sports Council and the All England Club.

Paris (AP) - Ivan Lendl and Martina Navratilova are the No. 1 seeds for the singles events at the French Open championships which begin on Monday.

WOMEN'S SINGLES: 1, M. Navratilova (US); 2, C. Lindqvist (SWE); 3, S. Graf (GER); 4, G. Kotlikova (CZE); 5, H. Mandlikova (CZE); 6, H. Sukova (CZE); 7, K. Rinaldi (USA); 8, M. Jelinekova (CZE); 9, G. Sabatini (ARG); 10, Z. Gajdosova (CZE); 11, K. Jordan (AUS); 12, C. Lindqvist (SWE); 13, C. Bassett (CAN); 14, A. Temaszvar (HUN); 15, A. White, (USA); 16, T. Phelps (US).

Bullough ban

David Bullough, the Fulham forward who was sent off against Mansfield on May 10, was suspended for six matches by the Rugby League disciplinary committee yesterday.

CRICKET

TCCB force Botham to defend on four fronts

When Ian Botham faces the disciplinary committee of the Test and County Cricket Board at Lord's next Thursday, it will be to answer four charges resulting from the article in last week's Mail On Sunday in which, contrary to what he has always said, he admitted to having smoked cannabis on occasions in the past.

The counts against him are that he has brought the game into disrepute: by using cannabis; by admitting to having used cannabis; by denying that in the past he had used the drug; by making public pronouncements without the clearance of his county.

Botham was withdrawn on Monday from the England party to play in the two Texaco Trophy one-day internationals - at the Oval tomorrow and Old Trafford on Monday - pending the outcome of the Board's inquiries and their meeting with the player. Speaking on

HORSE TRIALS

Youth leads dressage parade

From a Special Correspondent, Gawler, South Australia

Anne-Marie Taylor, the youngest member of the British squad at the world three-day event championships here, has a tenuous lead at the end of the first day's dressage with the 10-year-old Justyn Thyme VI. Added to the British squad at the last moment when Captain Mark Phillips' Distinctive went down with ringworm, she performed a very light and well-controlled test to finish with 50.2 penalties.

This was two penalties fewer than the other British individual rider, Mandy Orchard, on Venture Busby, and the American team member, Derek di Grazia, on Sasquatch, who share second place.

Taylor, who will celebrate her 22nd birthday on Monday, admitted it was unlikely she would keep ahead with 20 of the field of 43 riders still to compete in today's second dressage session. "If I'm still

SPORT IN BRIEF

Bruno bout confirmed

Mike Barrett, the London boxing promoter, claimed again yesterday that Frank Bruno will definitely meet Tim Witherspoon, of the United States, for the world heavyweight title at Wembley Stadium on July 19. He also said that ITV was trying to force the bout to be switched to America because of an agreement with Don King, who controls most world heavyweight championship bouts.

Ovett longer distances

Steve Ovett will race against Jose-Luis Gonzalez, of Spain, over 3,000 or 5,000 metres at the Sale Farm Ulster Games in Belfast on June 30. Both athletes have announced plans to specialise in the higher distances this season, and their confrontation will be a highlight of the meeting.

Smith invited

Harvey Smith will take part in the Royal international horse show next month after all. He did not qualify for the show - at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, from June 12 to 15. But now that some foreign riders have been pulled out, the organizers have issued extra invitations to Smith and two leading women showjumpers, Helena Dickinson and Jean Germany.

Dean elevated

Robert Dean, aged 74, the former chairman of British Equestrian Promotions, is to succeed Mrs Pat Koehchin-Smythe as president of the British Showjumping Association.

CRICKET

TCCB force Botham to defend on four fronts

Somerset's behalf, Tony Brown, their secretary, said yesterday that Botham was confident of being able to answer the first three charges satisfactorily, but not the last. He admits to having been in breach of the Board's regulation which requires players to submit newspaper articles to their counties before publication. Botham has apologized to Somerset for this, and said that he acted on legal advice.

The article amounted, in fact, to a negotiated legal document, Botham agreeing that his fee for writing his "confessions" for the Mail On Sunday should be put towards the escalating costs of the libel action which Botham had brought against the paper, and which he was obviously going to be hard pushed to contest. Botham is also suing the News Of The World for two more recent articles, and the results of police inquiries into accusations of drug-taking during his charity walk from John O'Groats to Land's End were forwarded last week to the

Director of Public Prosecutions. Having been too indulgent, or trusting, for too long, the Board know now that the time has come to act. They have picked on the fact that Botham admitted in his article to having taken drugs after becoming an international cricketer; but Botham can still claim that it was before the Board introduced the present measures aimed at eliminating drug abuse, such as it is, within the game.

CRICKET

Why the stars can't be beaten

A great deal of sport is selfishness. Monique Berlioux, the former director of the International Olympic Committee, insists that top sportsmen have to be selfish to succeed. True, in some sports there is the team thing but that is as well as, not instead of, the selfish preoccupation with my performance, my body, my crucial tackle, my stamping.

Indeed, the self-obsession of your average head-banded marathon runner can at times look like a narcissism that outstrips anything that the most pose-conscious pop star can achieve.

Sport and pop music are both areas characterized by self-obsession. And both these areas produce that extraordinary thing, the star. Stars provoke extreme reactions in their public - adoration and loathing. Roy George and Ian Botham are stars, both masters of self-protection.

Many hold such people in contempt. Perhaps it is the apparent selfishness of it all that rankles so deeply with such people. But it is not the solid and selfless citizens, but the seemingly self-obsessed worlds of pop music and sport that have done more, far more, to raise money for starving Africans: to relieve what Michael Buerk of the BBC memorably called "a famine of Biblical proportions."

Bringing people to their senses

The sportsmen, like the pop stars, have done wonderfully. Less wonderful has been some of the stuff that has been going on backstage. It is practically always the non-players who make the real trouble in sport. For example, I know of one agent who refused to release his star unless he received a guarantee that the relevant Sport Aid event would be televised.

But that is as nothing compared to the Rugby Football Union. At their general committee meeting there were a number of vociferous speeches against doing anything for Sport Aid. "It's their fault they're in the mess," was the sort of view put forward. It took a powerful speech by Peter Dixon, the former British Lion, to bring people to their senses.

Then, of course, the West Indies Cricket Board of Control made difficulties about the fund-raising match between the West Indies and the Rest of the World on Tuesday. The reason was the presence of Clive Rice - a white South African giving up his time in order to raise money for starving black people. You would have thought this might have been an occasion for giving the politicking a rest.

An action which defies belief

Guisborough, the Yorkshire league cricket club, refused to release Desmond Haynes, their professional, for the Sport Aid match, an action which defies belief. Never mind 'starving Africans, led: this is a matter affecting Yorkshire cricket.

The various actions of these back-room people strike me as real examples of bringing a game into disrepute. The sportsmen themselves who took part - or tried to take part - have done a lot for sport, as well as for more important causes. I might single out one sportsman whose record for raising money for charities is especially impressive.

Some, who delight in seeing exceptional men brought low, object to this fellow more than most. However, he has raised rather more for leukaemia research than most of his detractors. He plans to raise even more by taking elephants across the Alps in Hannibal's paw prints: good for him. Not a small man, this one, unlike many of his detractors.

But what rotten luck it was that Edgbaston was so wet for the match on Tuesday. There was so much water about that Bob Geldof could have walked on it. A great man. It is he that has sparked the week's efforts, and I hope this weekend's runners raise a fortune. Fame is the reason for it all. Anyone who has ever had a decent cricket tea or who has had a cheese and pickle sandwich in front of the telly when the sport has been on, should give thanks - and lob a little cash in an African direction. It would be an appropriate offering.

RESULTS: 1, Justyn Thyme VI (A-M Taylor, GB), 50.20; equal 2, Sasquatch (D di Grazia, US), 52.20; and Venture Busby (M Orchard, GB), 52.20; 4, Justyn Thyme VI (A-M Taylor, GB), 54.50; 5, Chris (M Man, NZ), 59.50; 6, Persio (J Thompson, AUS), 59.50; 7, Shaiyee Time (H F Nagel, WGI), 61.50; 8, Myross (J Clarlow, GB), 63.40; 9, Phillip (C Wagner, WGI), 64.00; 10, Bluestone (J M Plumb, US), 65.20. Other British placings: equal 14, Delphy Dazzle (C Strachan), 68.40.

RESULTS: Semi-final D Taylor (t Murphy) 6-3. (Frame scores, Taylor first 53-64, 70-51, 74-14, 81-41, 71-78, 10-88, 82-10, 27-63, 50-30).

Why the stars can't be beaten Simon Barnes

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Handwritten notes and signatures